



Electromagnetics Engineering Office Propagation Engineering Division Technical Report EMEO-PED-81-4

MUTUAL COUPLING IMPEDANCE BETWEEN THE

HF CENTER-FED FIRST-RESONANT DIPOLE

ANTENNA AND EARTH - NEC SOLUTIONS

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Harold F. Tolles

April 1981

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MILES A. MERKEL Chief, Electromagnetics Engr Office

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to validate the Sommerfeld subroutine in our CDC-6500/6600 NEC program, and to present the results for the standard HF first-resonant dipole antenna in graphic form for analysis, reference, and subsequent comparisons.

Our original AMP (Antenna Modeling Program) used the Fresnel RCM (Reflection Coefficient Method) to obtain antenna-to-ground mutual coupling impedance, and it has been pointed out that a Sommerfeld method must be used when the height,  $H_{\lambda}$ , of any part of the dipole over earth is less than 1,2

$$H_{\lambda} < \frac{0.70}{\sqrt{|\epsilon|}}$$
 wavelength

where,

$$\varepsilon \doteq \varepsilon_{r} - j \frac{1.79751 \times 10^{4} \text{ T}}{f_{MHz}}$$
 numeric

 $\varepsilon_{r}$  = earth's relative dielectric permittivity; numeric

τ = earth's conductivity; mhos/meter

Using the HF frequency range together with earth's electrical properties listed in Table I, equation 1 is plotted on Figure 1.

The results plotted on the next 50 graphs are mutual impedance,  $R_{21}$  and  $X_{21}$ , solutions. These solutions were obtained by using NEC to compare the antenna's self (free-space) impedance,  $Z_{11}$ , with the antenna's input impedance,  $Z_{1n}$ , when near the earth as follows.<sup>3</sup>

when the antenna is horizontal:

$$Z_{in} = Z_{i1} + (-Z_{21})$$

$$Z_{21} = Z_{i1} - Z_{in} \qquad ohms_{i1}$$

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when the antenna is vertical:

$$Z_{in} = Z_{11} + (+ Z_{21})$$

$$Z_{21} = Z_{in} - Z_{11} \qquad ohms_{\perp}$$

Since the antenna was pruned to first-resonance,  $Z_{11} = R_{11}$ , and equations 2-3 reduce, respectively, to:

$$Z_{21} = R_{11} - Z_{in}$$
 ohms  
 $Z_{21} = Z_{in} - R_{11}$  ohms<sub>1</sub>

The first-resonant dipole self resistance,  $R_{11}$ , used in equations 4 and 5 can be approximated without having to resort to the computer NEC program. The procedure is to use an <u>estimated</u> relative velocity,  $V_r(e)$ , multiply  $0.5\lambda_0$  by this  $V_r(e)$  to get an actual length, L, divide L by the wire diameter, D, and solve equation 4 of reference 4 for an <u>actual</u> relative velocity,  $V_r(a)$ . The process is repeated (iterated) until  $V_r(a) = V_r(e)$ .

When each  $V_r(a)$  thus obtained is used as the <u>next</u>  $V_r(e)$ , the solution  $V_r(a) = V_r(e)$  is obtained via a relatively few iterations because of rapid convergence. Then, note L/D when  $V_r(a) = V_r(e)$ , and use this L/D in equation 9 of reference 4 to obtain  $R_{11}$ . The following is an example solution:

$$V_r(e) = 0.976772$$
 numeric  
 $0.5\lambda_0 \doteq 2950.718504$  inches at 2.0 MHz  
 $L \doteq (0.976772)$  (2950.718504)  $\doteq 2882.179215$  inches  
 $D = 0.08081$  inches (#12 wire)  
 $V_r(a) \doteq 1 - [10.541 \log_{10}(\frac{L}{D}) - 4.933]^{-1}$   
 $\doteq 0.976772 = V_r(e)$  numeric

when these L and D values are used in the computer NEC program, the free-space solution at 2 MHz is

$$Z_{11} \doteq 72.330 - j 0.340$$
 ohms

Thus, when  $L/D \doteq 35666$ , the above procedure gives a solution that is within 0.06 ohms and 0.27 degrees of that obtained via NEC at 2.0 MHz!

To obtain the effect of frequency upon the results, the 2-30 MHz band was divided into 4 MHz increments. Then, with the exception of solutions over a perfect earth, 8 frequencies are used in this analysis. Where less than 8 curves appear on the imperfect earth graphs, curves are combined when the error is less than plus-minus 1.5 ohms.

To obtain the effect of earth's electrical properties upon the results. 5 defined earths are used. The arbitrary properties are listed in Table I.

TABLE 1				
Earth	ε (numeric)	τ (mhos/meter)		
Poor	5.0	0.001		
Typical	13.0	0.005		
Good	21.0	0.010		
Sea Water	80.0	5.000		
Perfect	1.0	∞		

The normalized height arguments,  $H_{\lambda}$ , shown on the graphs are <u>feed</u> heights over the earth. Thus, the remote end of one arm of a <u>vertical</u> center-fed first-resonant dipole antenna is <u>very</u> close to the earth when  $H_{\lambda}$  = 0.25.

The curves on the enclosed 54 figures were generated from 9942 calculated data points. Thus, the enormous amount of required computer plus reduction time precludes the inclusion of other antenna types in this report.

### II. HORIZONTALLY-POLARIZED MUTUAL RESISTANCE.

The mutual resistance,  $R_{21}$ , results are plotted on Figures 2-6, 7-11, 12-16, and 17-21 for height,  $H_{\lambda}$ , intervals of 0.001-0.015, 0.015-0.155, 0.15-0.85, and 0.85-1.55 wavelengths, respectively. Thus, at each height interval, there are 5 graphs, one for each defined earth, and the frequency or frequency range is plotted on each graph.

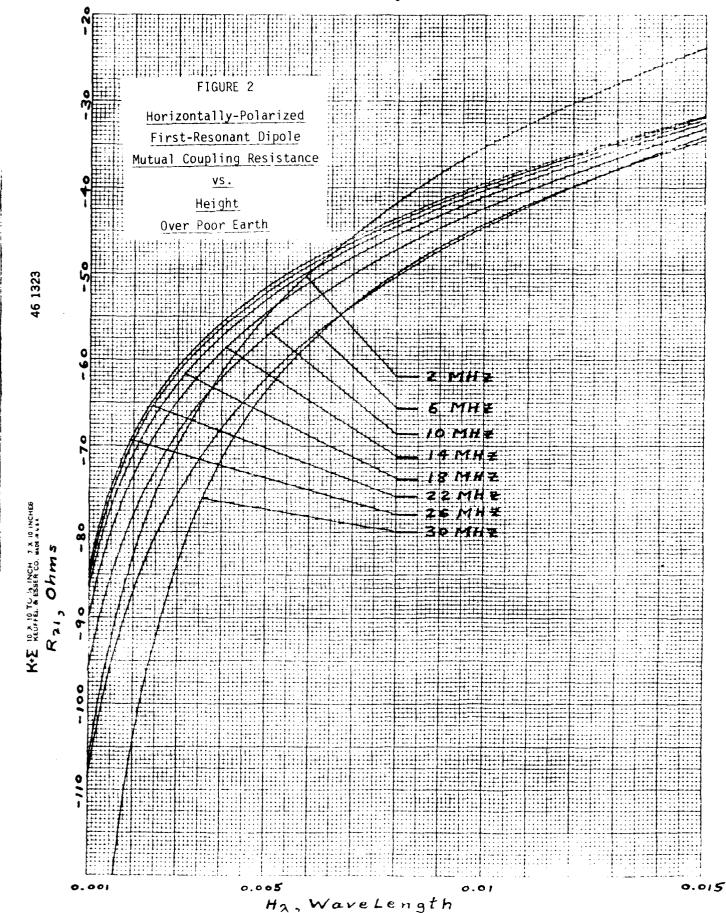
With the graphs so arranged, some degree of earth interpolation is enhanced. As an example, let the earth's electrical properties be  $\varepsilon_{\rm r}$  = 10 and  $\tau$  = 0.002 mhos/meter (between poor and typical earth). Using Figures 2 and 3 with H = 0.01 $\lambda$ 0 and f = 2.0 MHz, the solution is -35.3 < R<sub>21</sub> < + 3.0 ohms. The NEC solution is -18.8 ohms.

These figures show that ground (not sea water or perfect earth) mutual resistance is <u>highly</u> negative when this antenna is <u>near</u> an inperfect ground which, from equation 4, <u>increases</u> the antenna resistance drastically. This conclusion is supported by field measurements.<sup>5,6,7,8</sup>

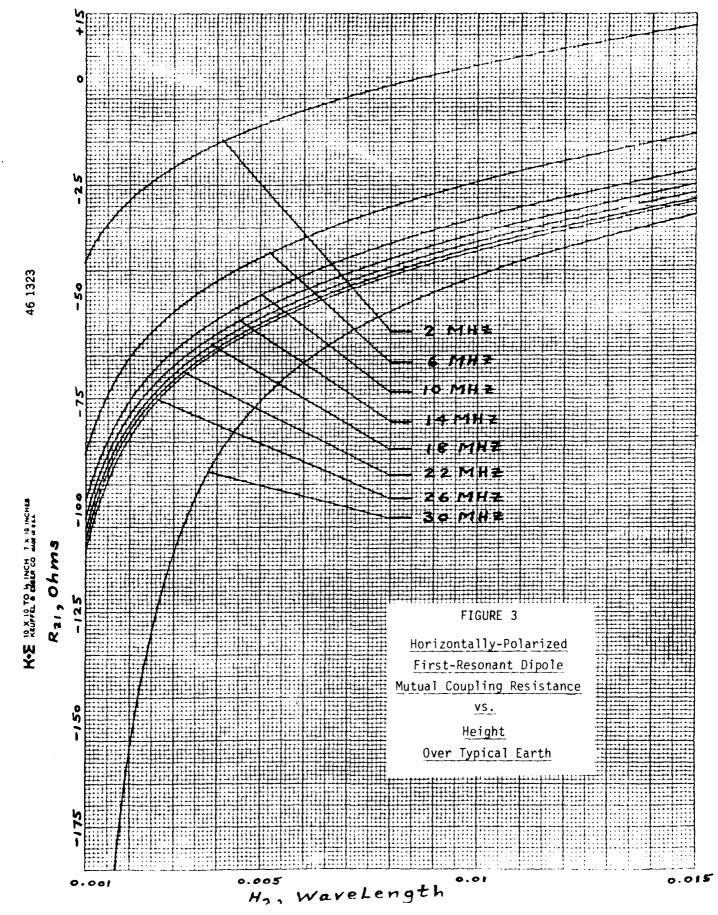
The results shown on Figure 5 appear to be highly frequency sensitive when this antenna is <u>near</u> sea water. The loss tangent of sea water does not exhibit a relatively strong displacement current until the frequency is above 1.0 MHz. The <u>great</u> difference in  $R_{21}$  solutions between 26 and 30 MHz was not expected, and the reason for this is given in the Summary.

The results shown on Figure 6 are what one would expect. The mutual resistance,  $R_{21}$ , approaches the dipole self resistance,  $R_{11}$ , when the height,  $H_{\lambda}$ , approaches the dipole radius, and the dipole self resistance,  $R_{11}$ , is a function of L/D. For practical reasons, number 12 wire (diameter = 0.08081 inches) was used at all frequencies except 30 MHz

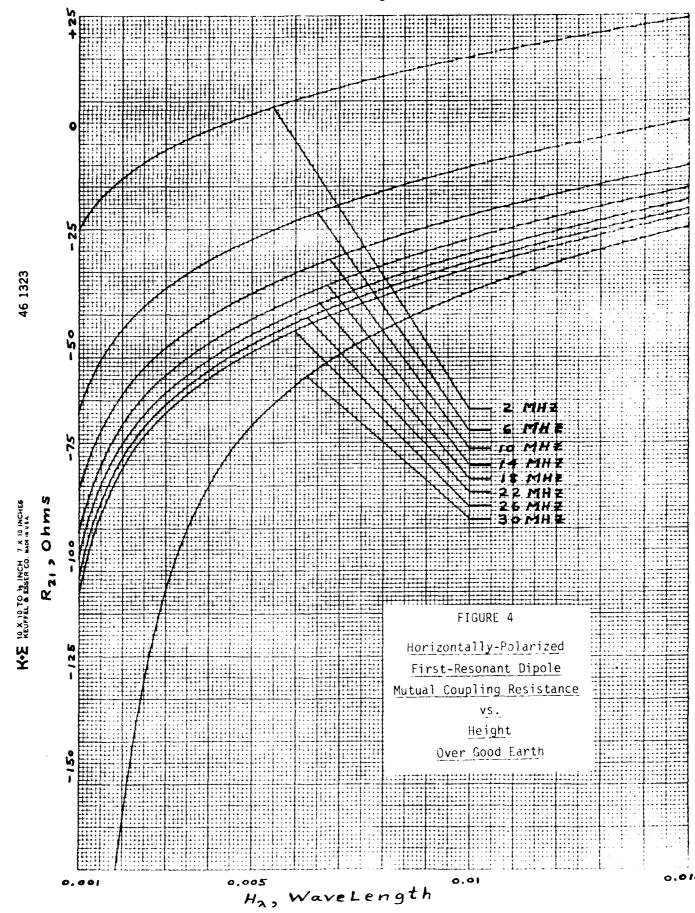


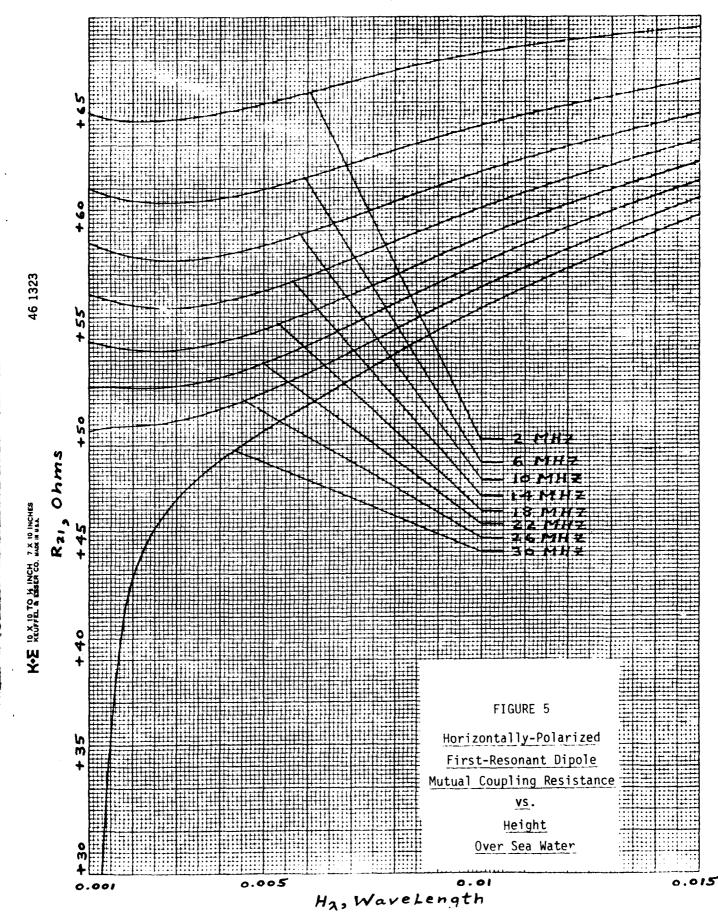




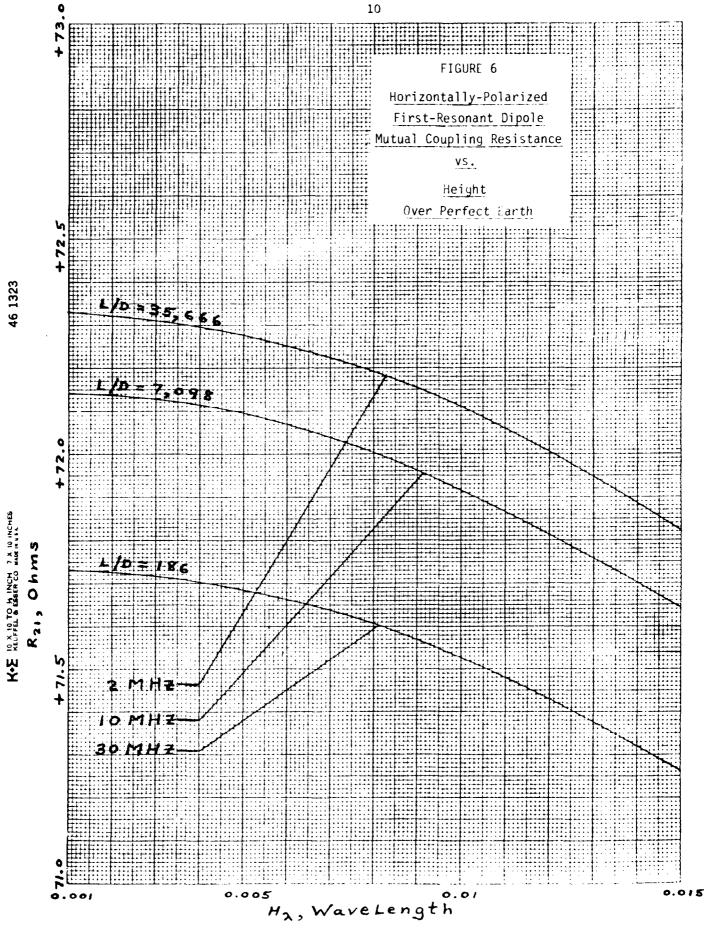


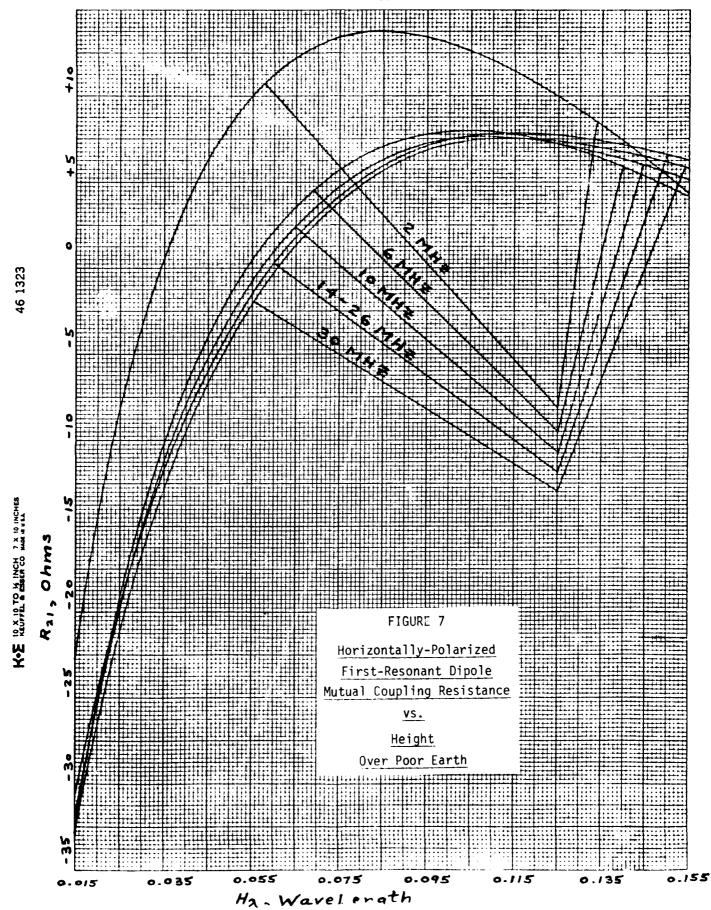


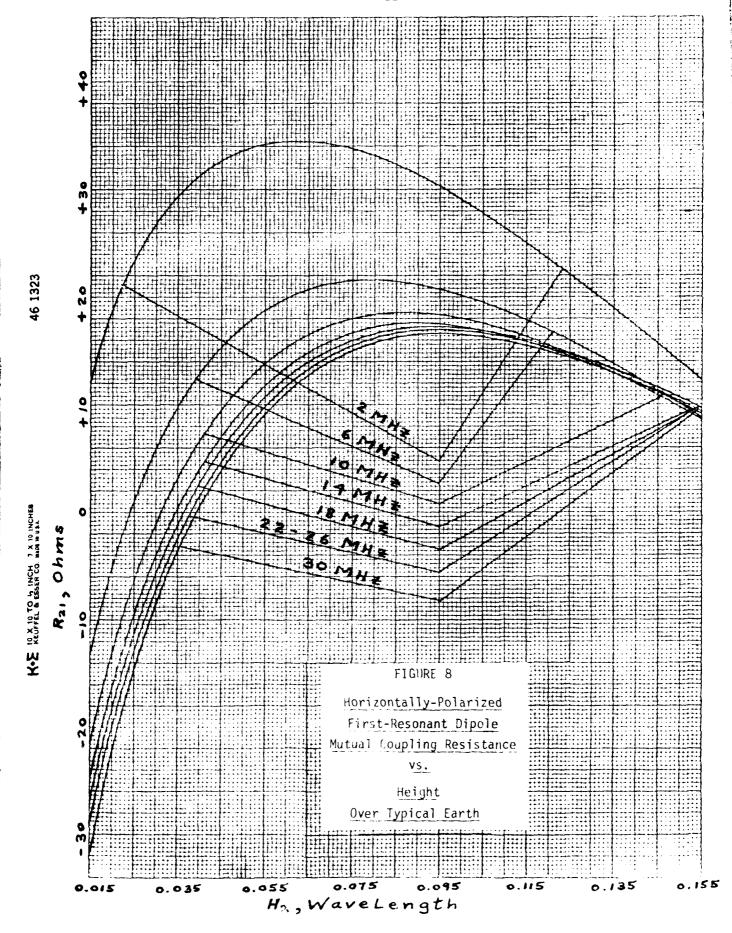




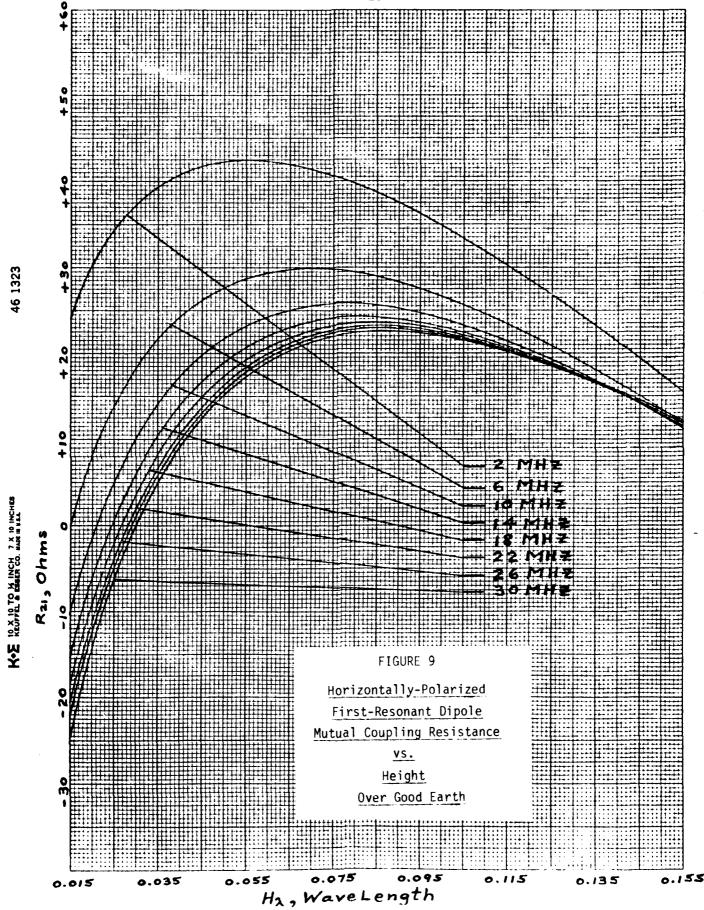


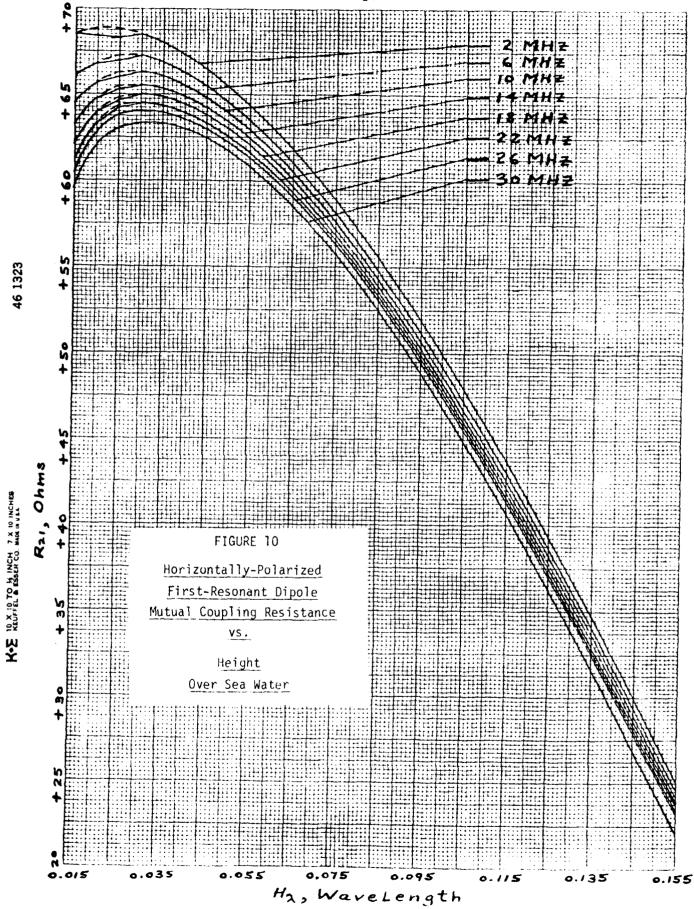


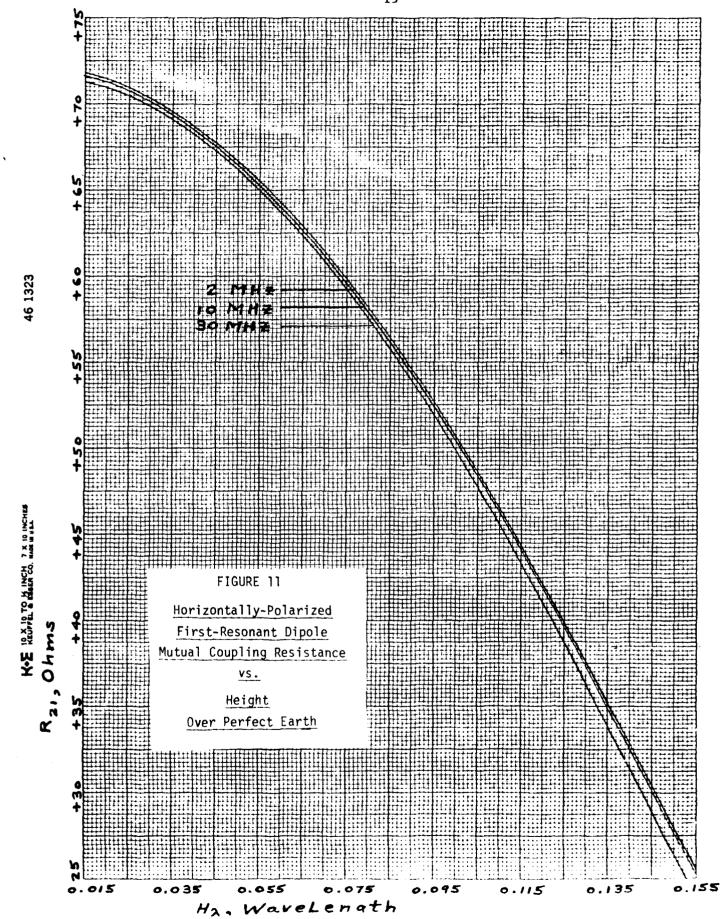


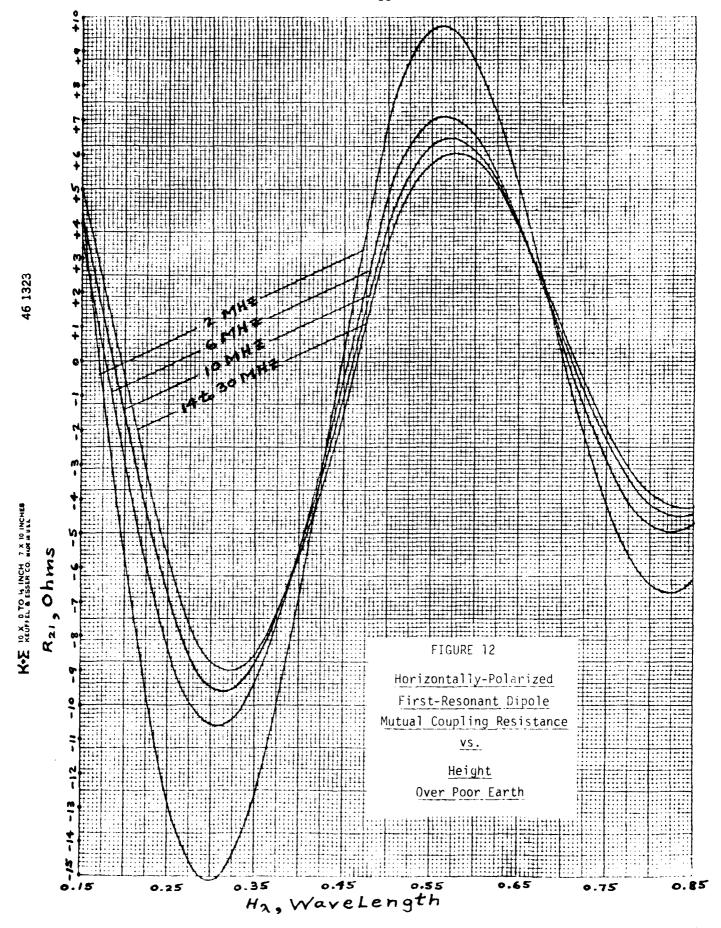


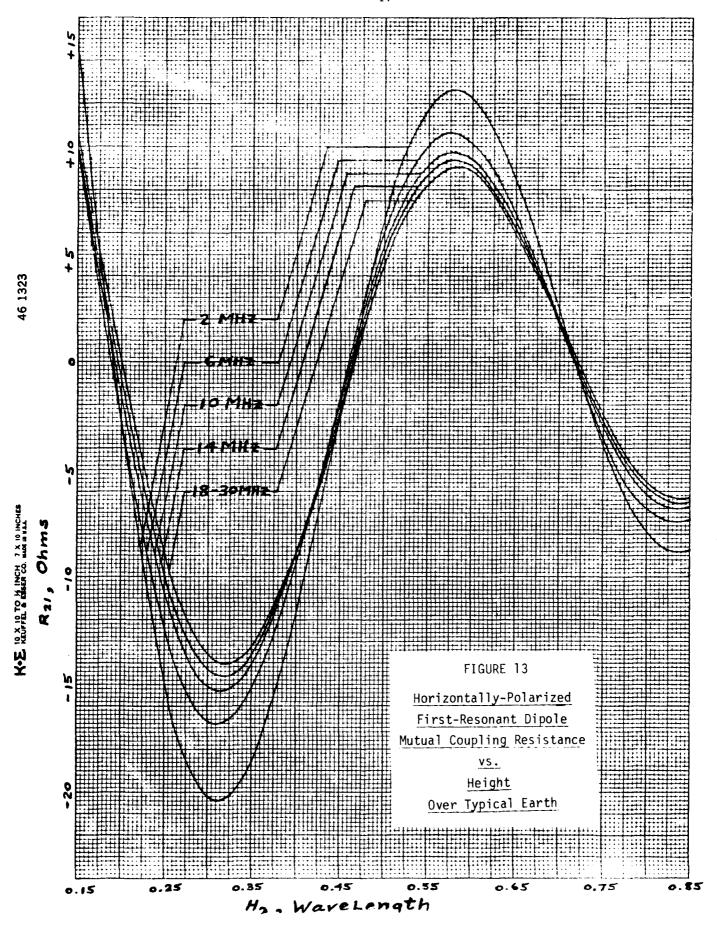


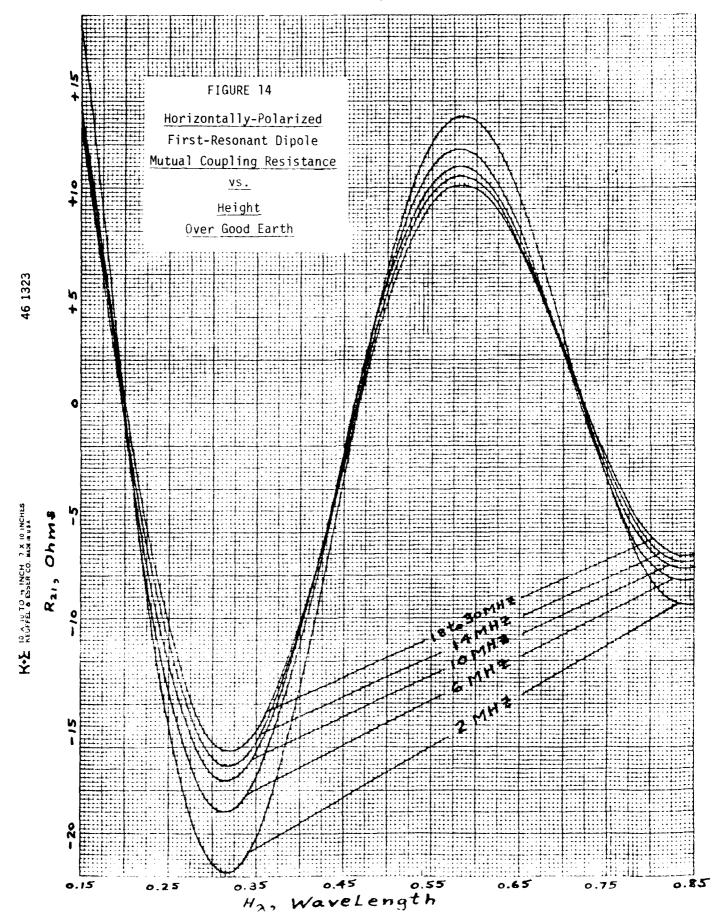


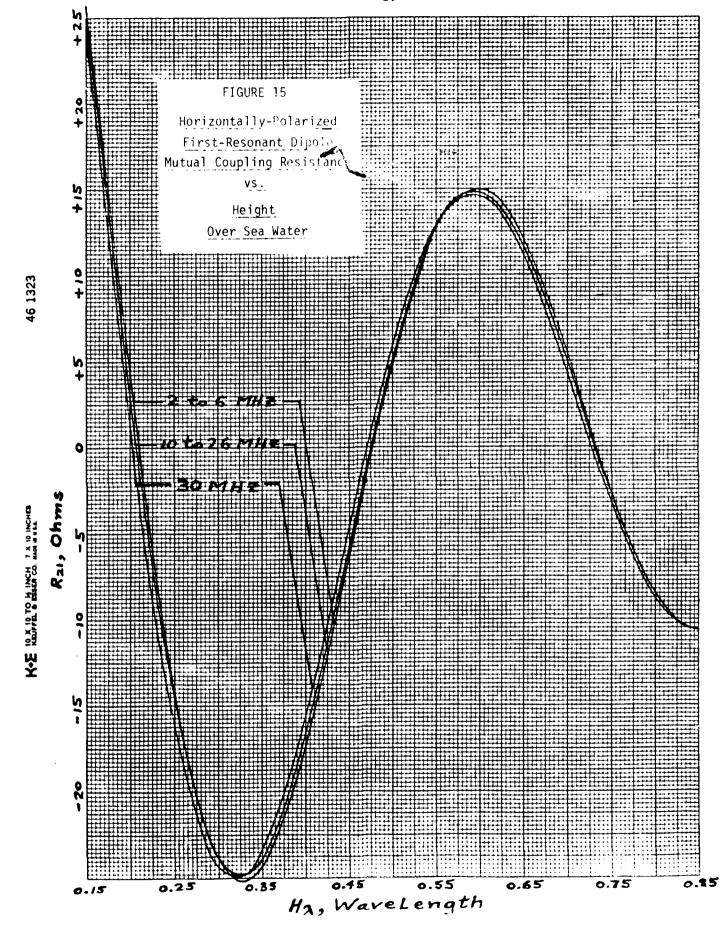


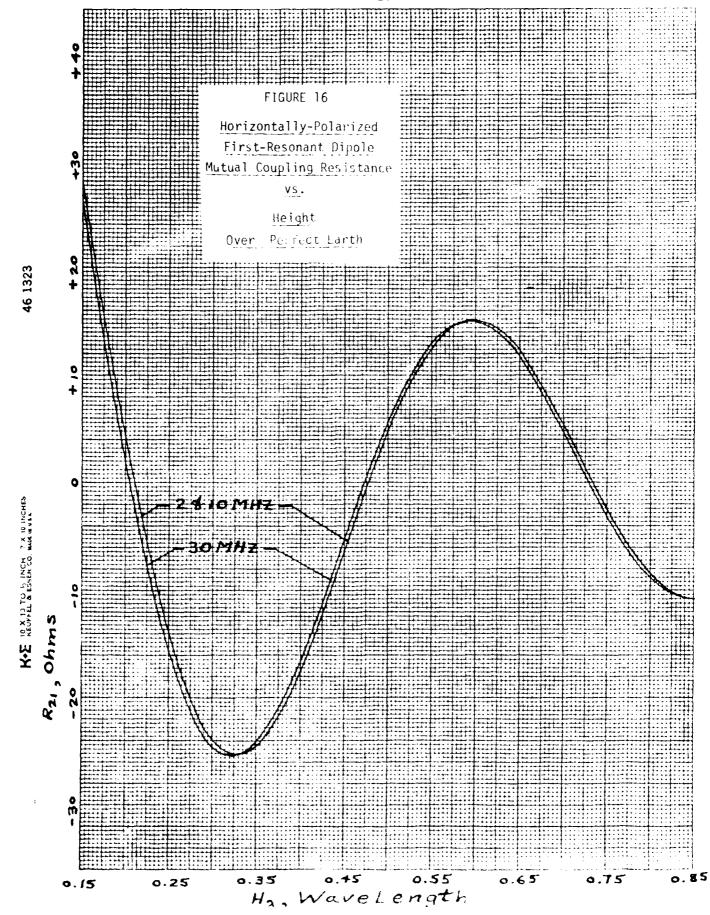


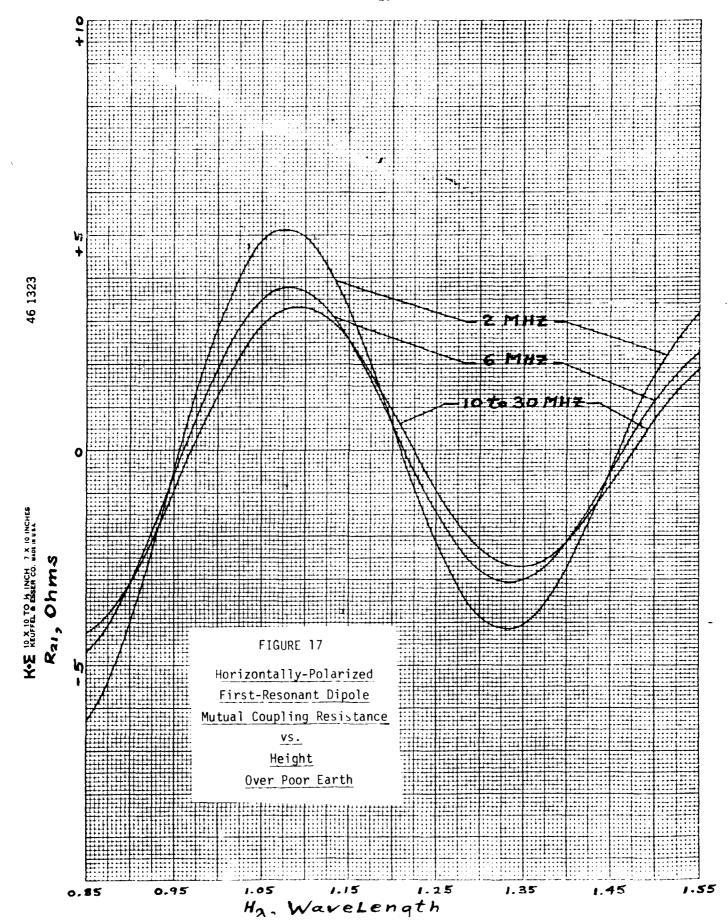


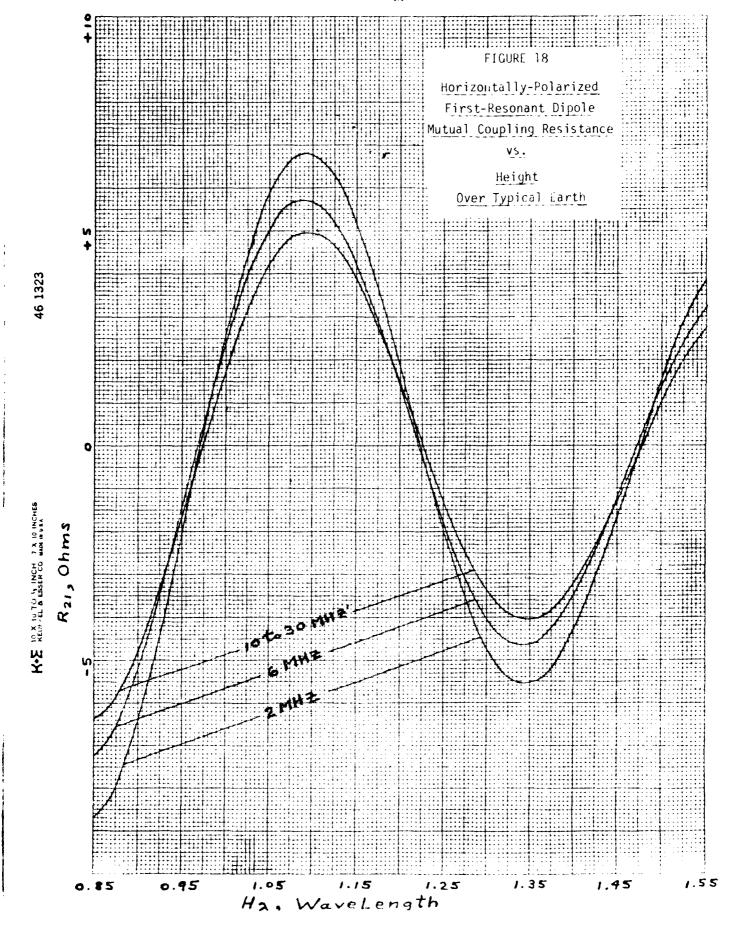


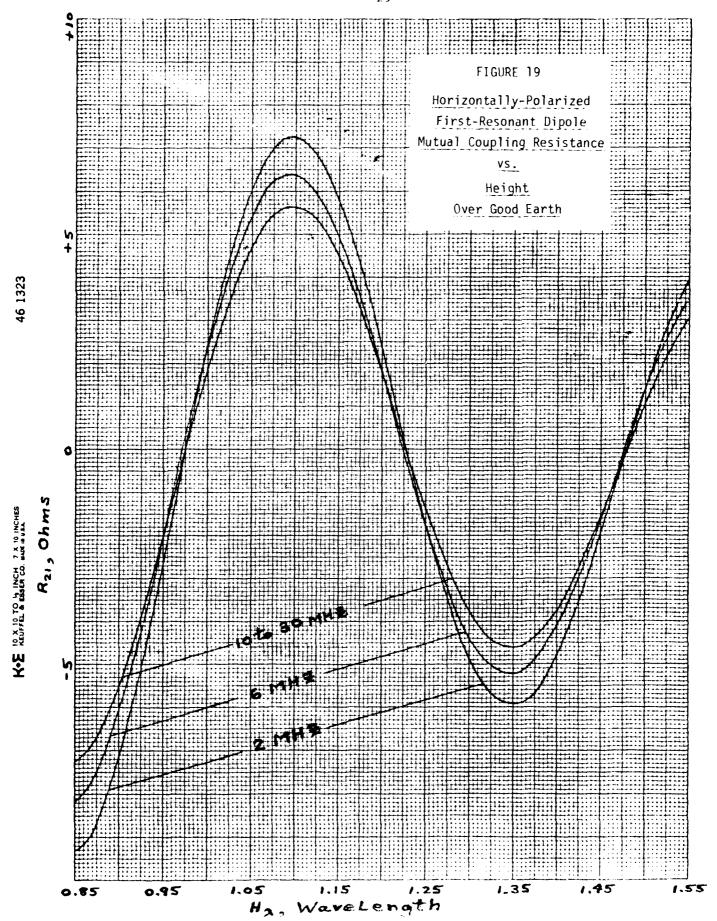


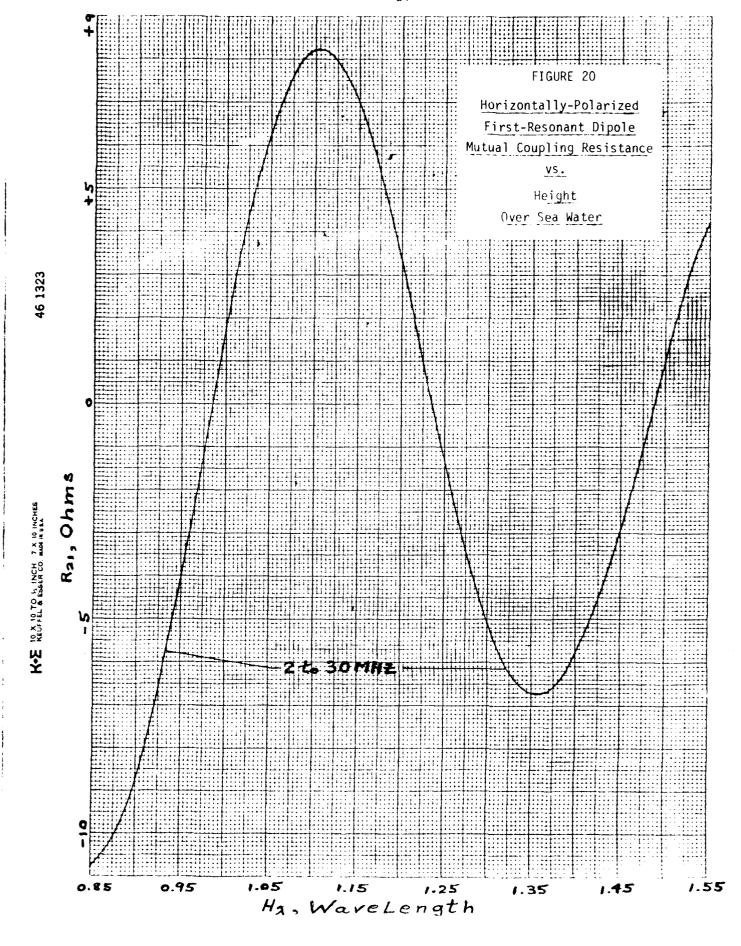


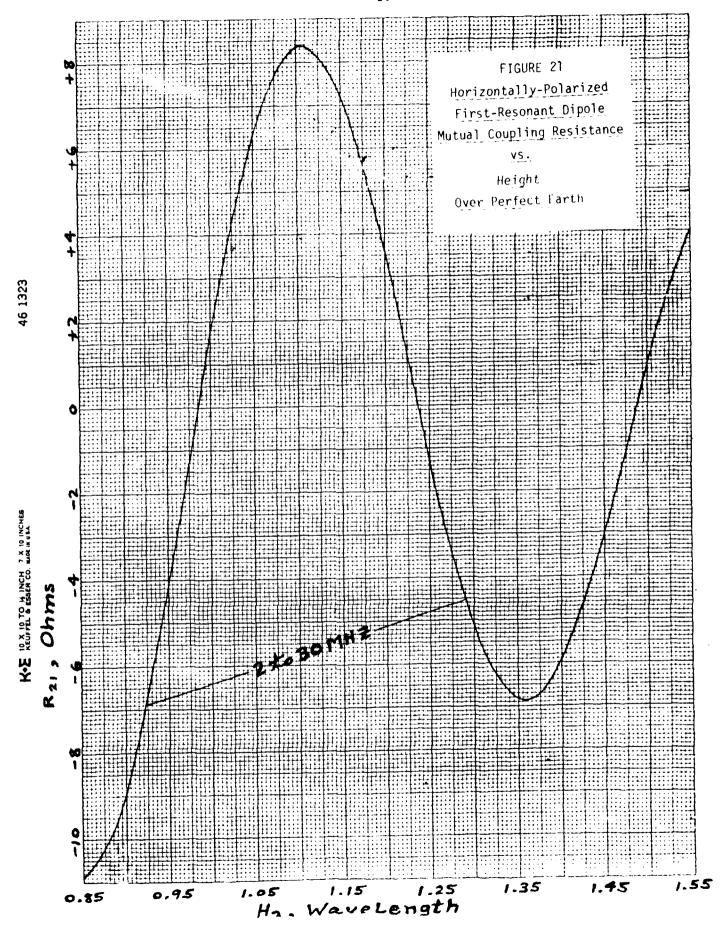












where a tubing diameter of 1.0 inch was used. Equation 4 of reference 4 was used, as discussed in the introduction, to obtain first resonant L/D ratios which are plotted on Figure 52 in Summa section, and shown on Figure 6 at 2, 10, and 30 MHz.

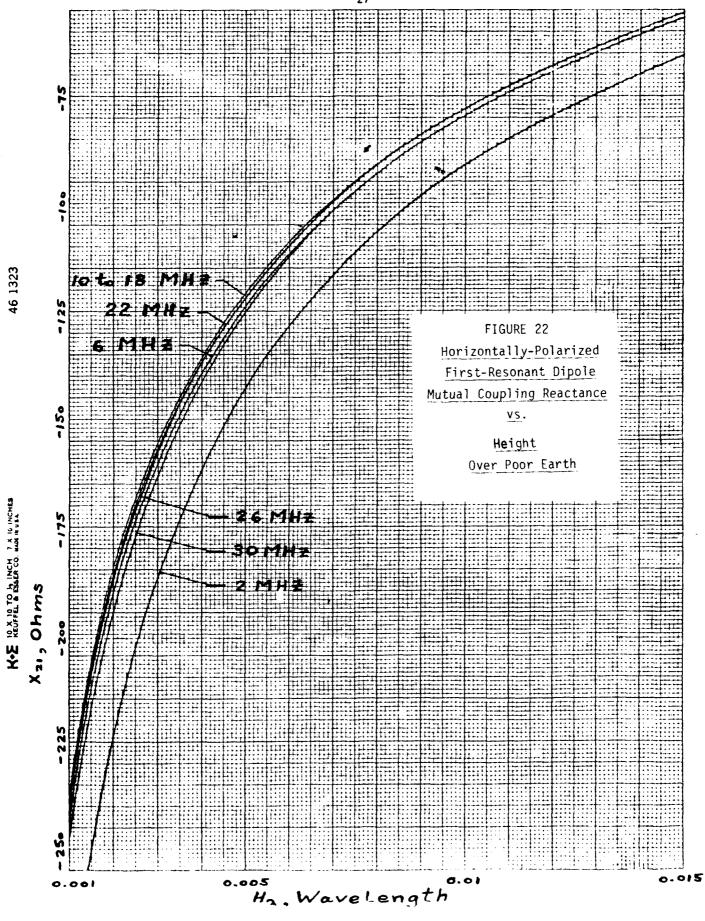
When the L/D ratios shown on Figure 6 are used in equation 9 of reference 4, solutions for R<sub>11</sub> are 0.06 ohms less than NEC solutions at 2.0 MHz, 0.03 ohms greater than NEC solutions at 10.0 MHz, and 0.03 ohms greater than NEC solutions at 30.0 MHz. The difference between the NEC solution curves shown on Figure 6 is a function of dipole first-resonant lengths of 0.488386% at 2.0 MHz, 0.485980% at 10.0 MHz, and 0.473683% at 30.0 MHz.

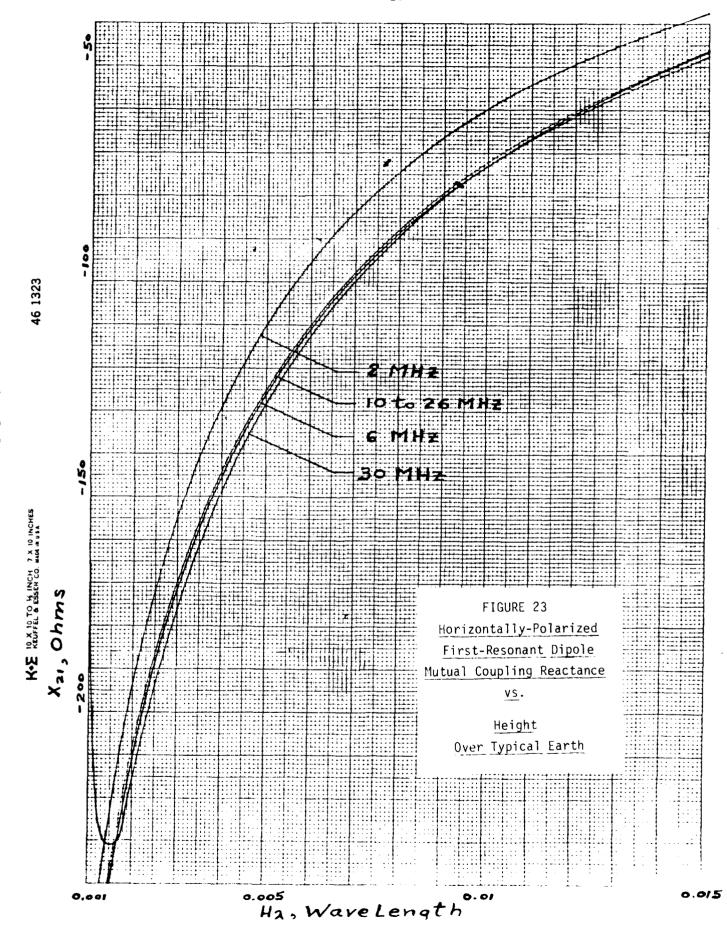
The results plotted on Figure 10 show that NEC solutions are not correct when the dipole height is  $0.015 \leq \mathrm{H_{\chi}} \leq 0.03$  wavelength over sea water and the frequency is below 26 MHz. Surprisingly, this height range is well within the RCM limit discussed in the Introduction leading to equation 1 and Figure 1. Since the subroutine gives reasonable solutions when other combinations of earth electrical properties, frequency, and height are used, the error appears to be philosophical.

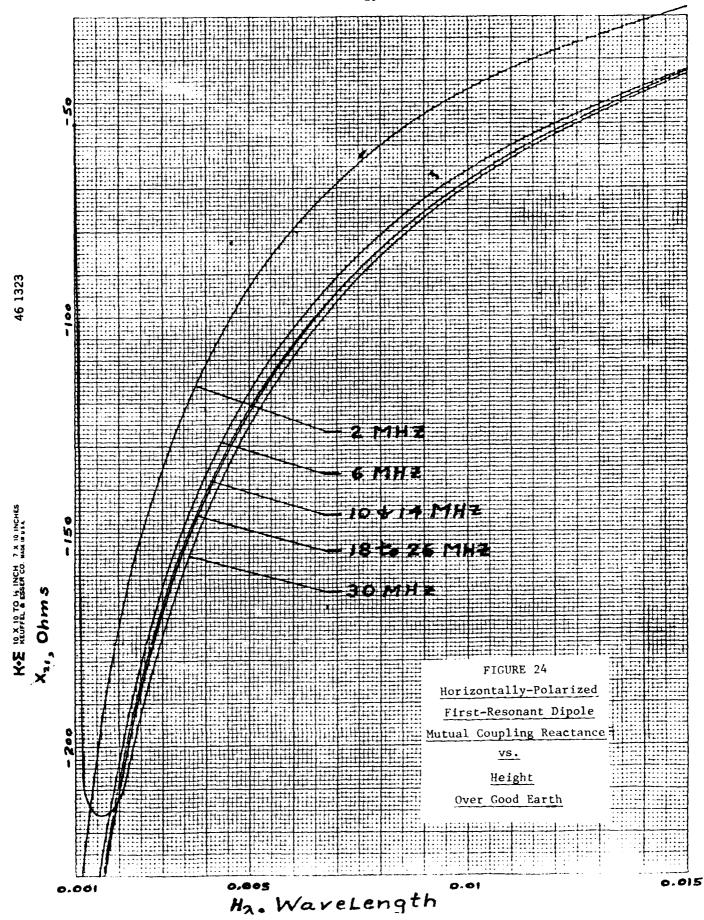
#### III. HORIZONTALLY-POLARIZED MUTUAL REACTANCE.

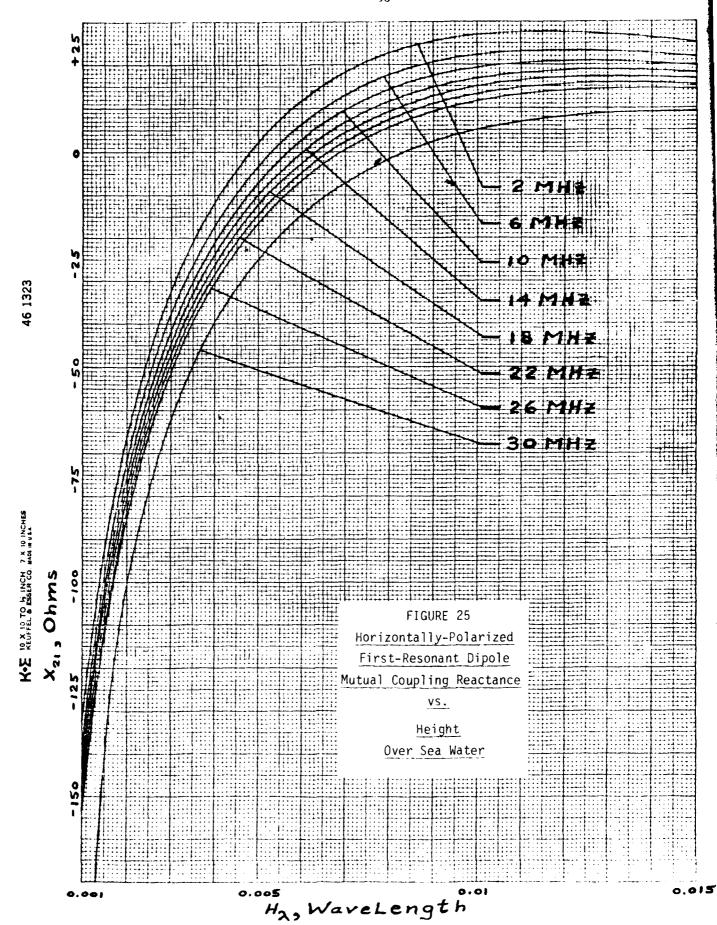
The mutual reactance,  $X_{21}$ , results are plotted on Figures 22-26, 27-31, 32-36, and 37-41 for height,  $H_{\lambda}$ , intervals of 0.001-0.015, 0.015-0.155, 0.15-0.85, and 0.85-1.55 wavelengths, respectively. Thus, at each height interval there are 5 graphs, one for each defined earth, and the frequency or frequency range is plotted on each graph.

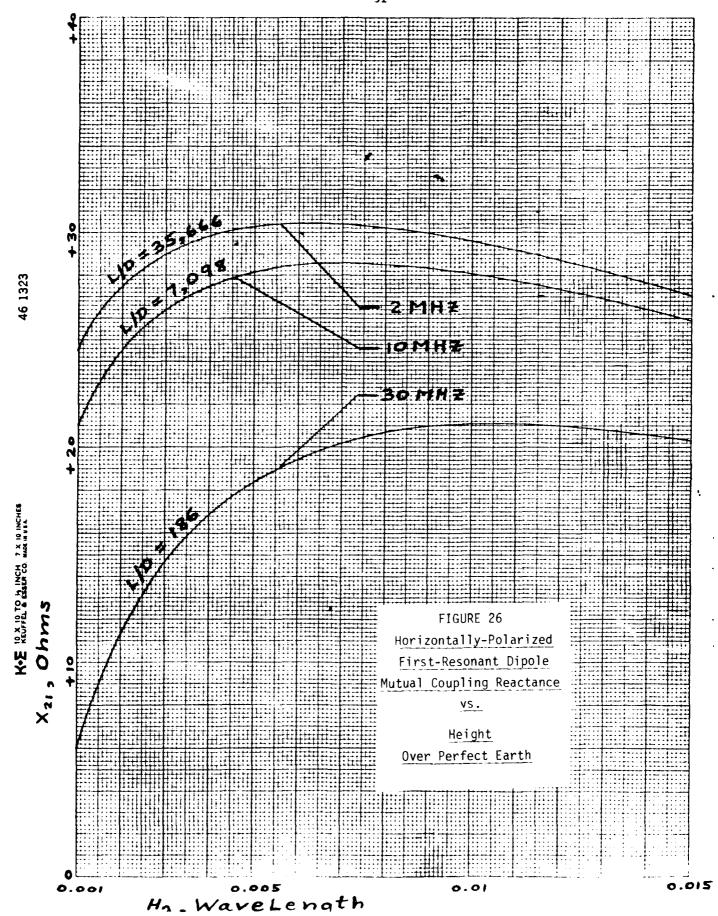
With the graphs so arranged, some degree of earth interpolation is enhanced. As an example, let the earth's electrical properties be  $\epsilon_{\rm r}$  = 10 and  $\tau$  = 0.002 mhos/meter (between poor and typical earth). Using Figures 22 and 23 with H = 0.01 $\lambda_0$  and f = 2.0 MHz, the solution is -90.8  $\leq$  X21  $\leq$  - 64.6 ohms. The NEC solution is -80.7 ohms.

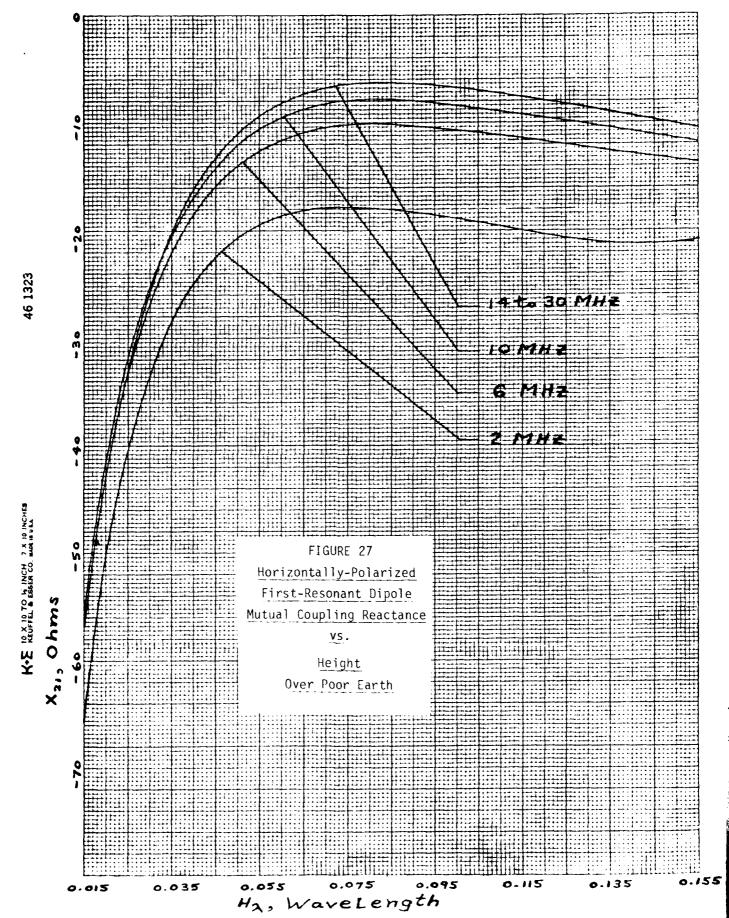


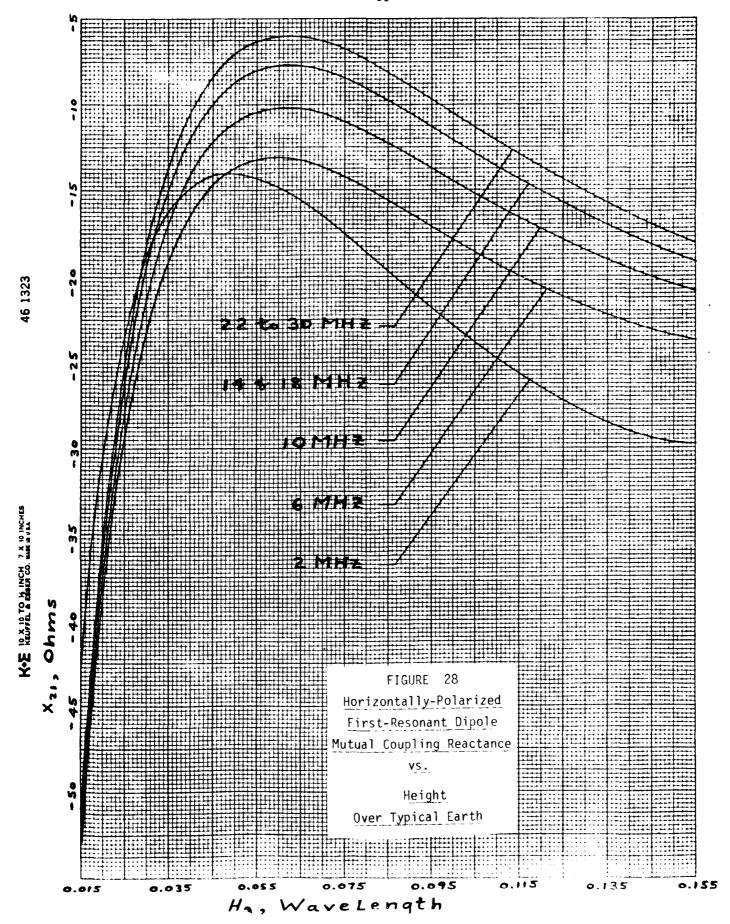


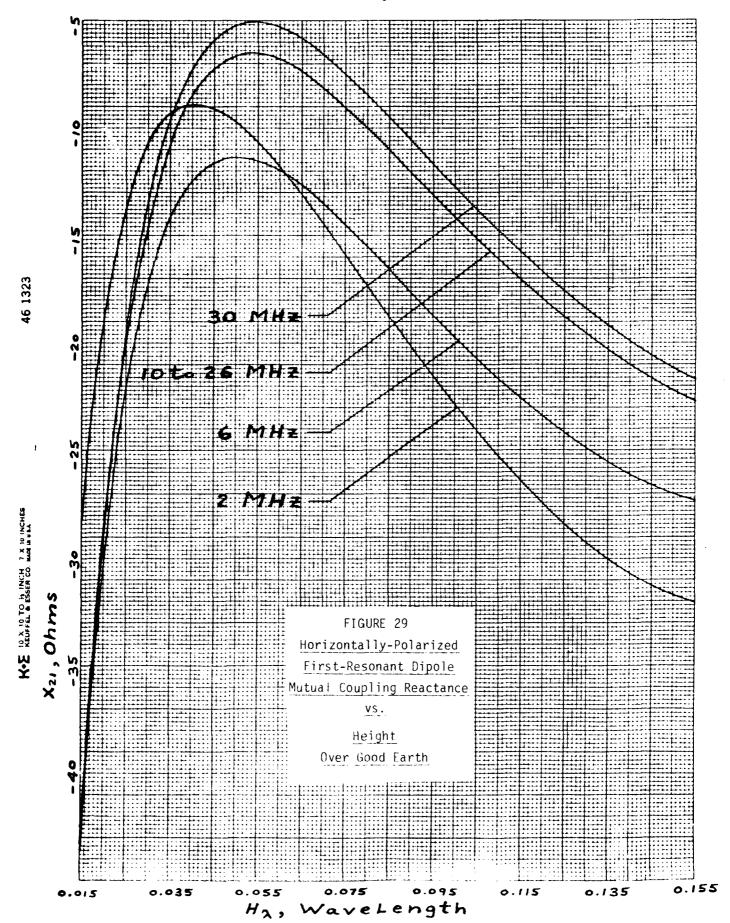


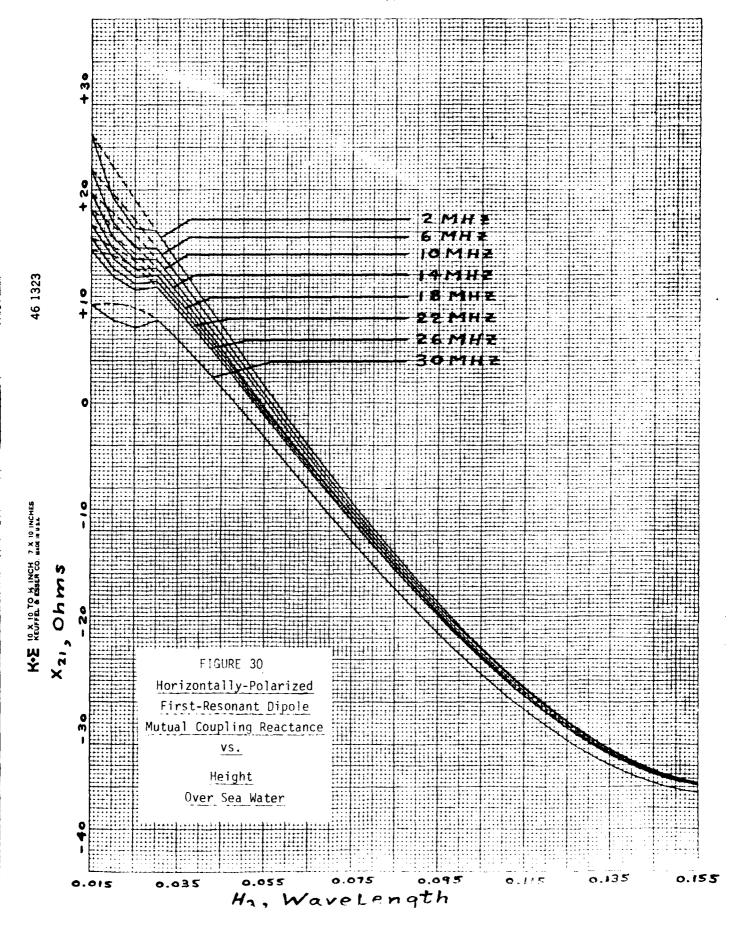


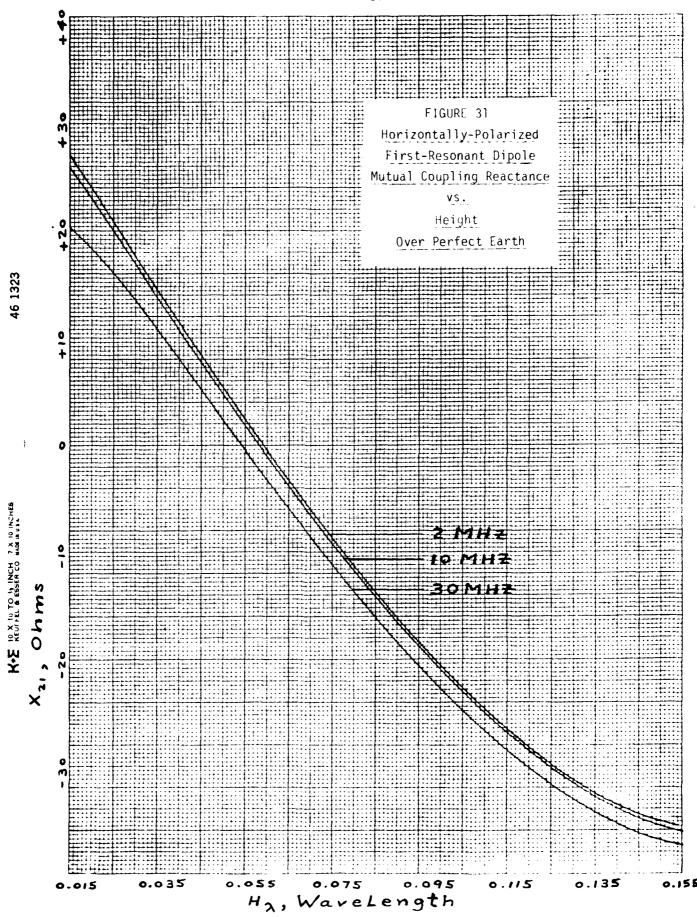


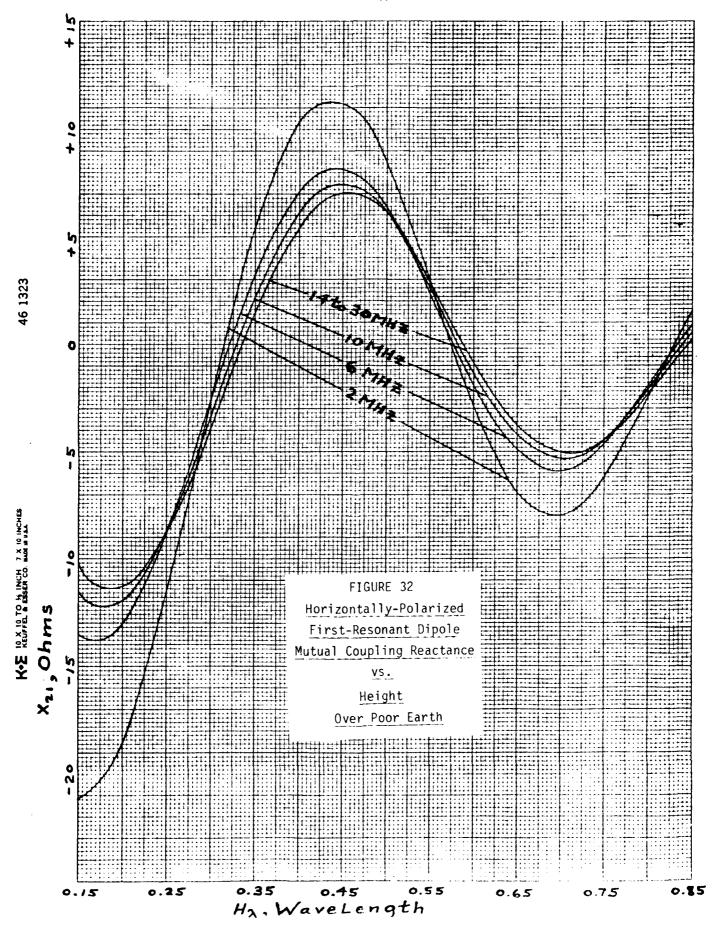


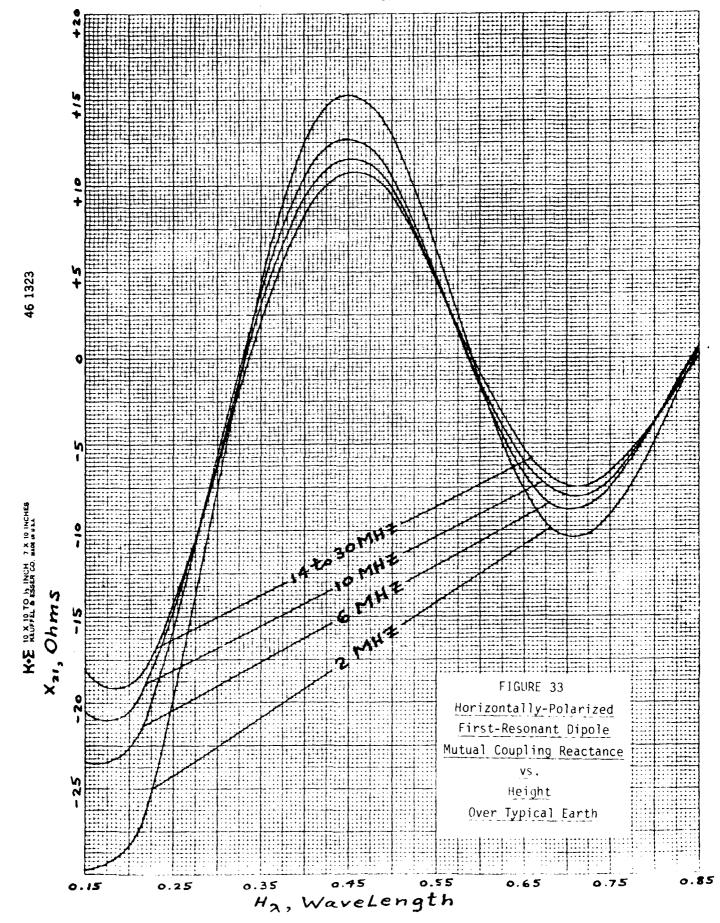


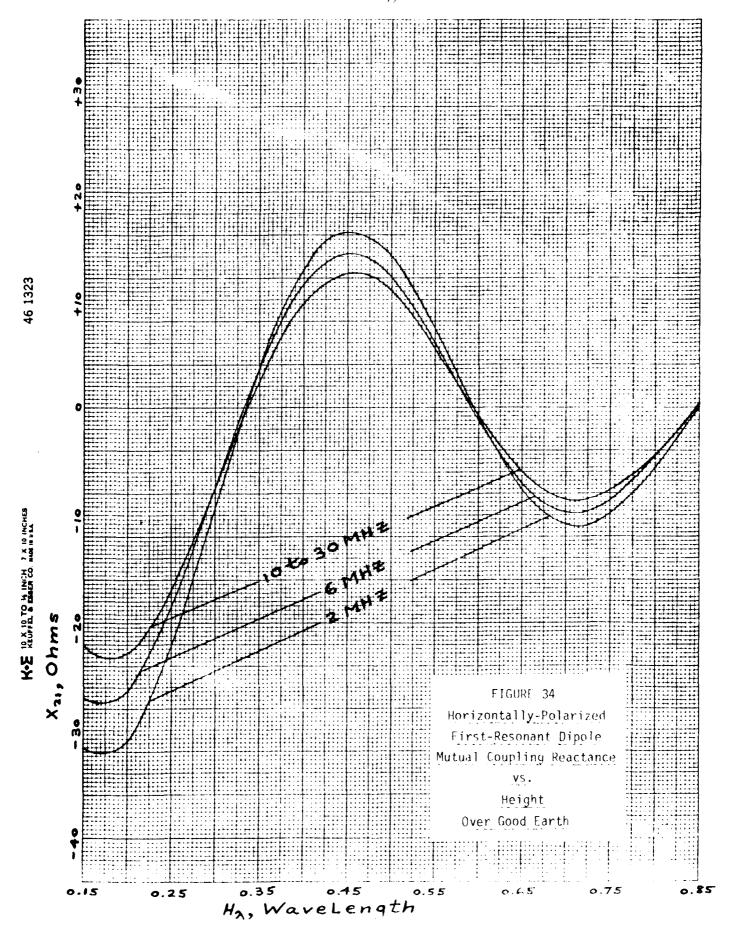


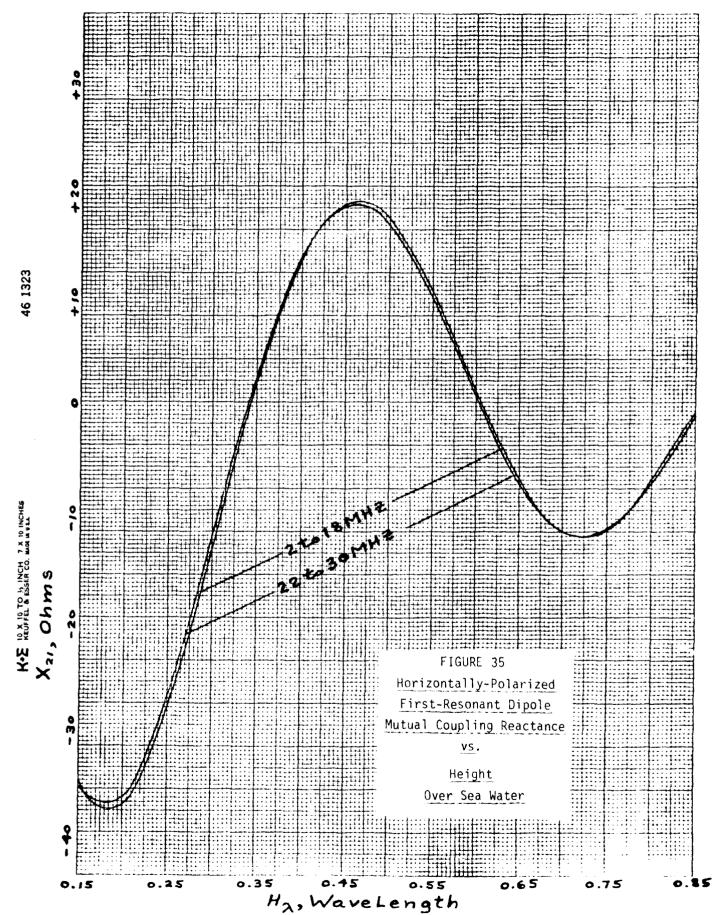


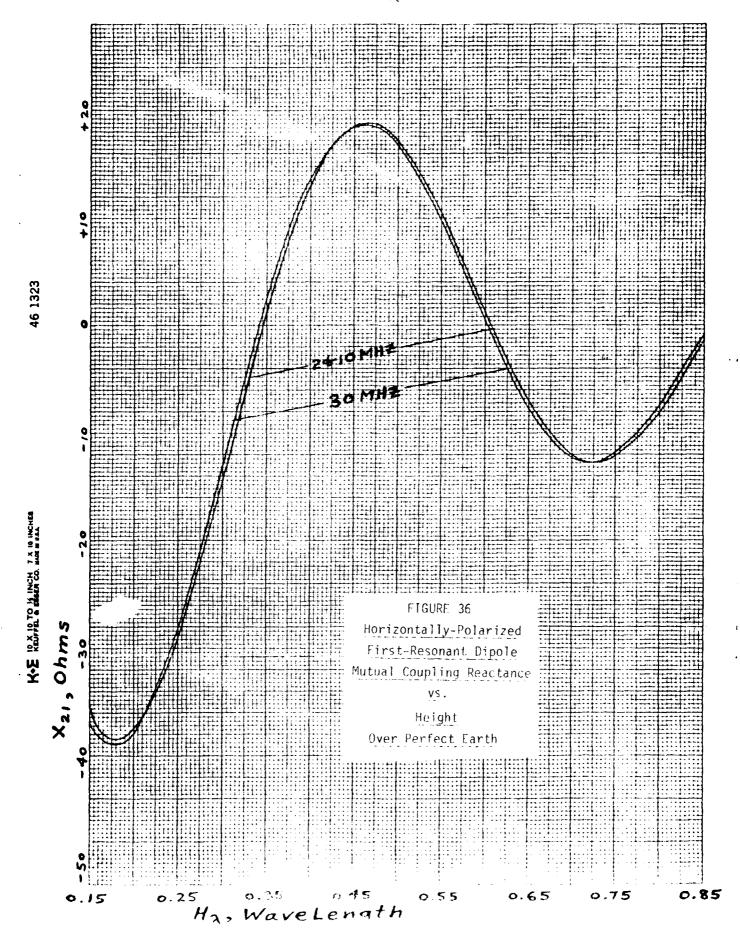


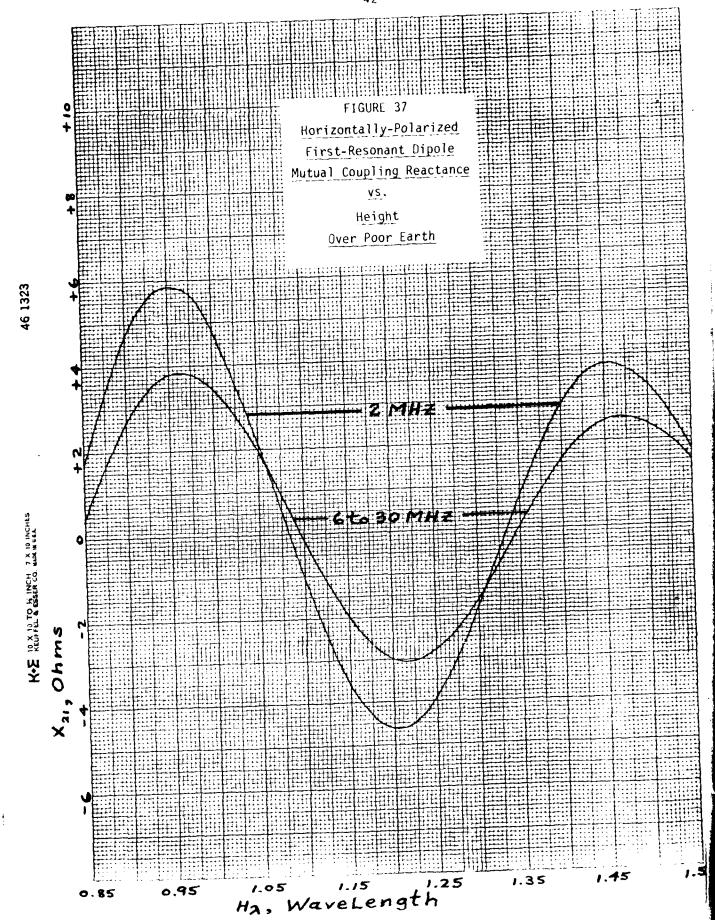


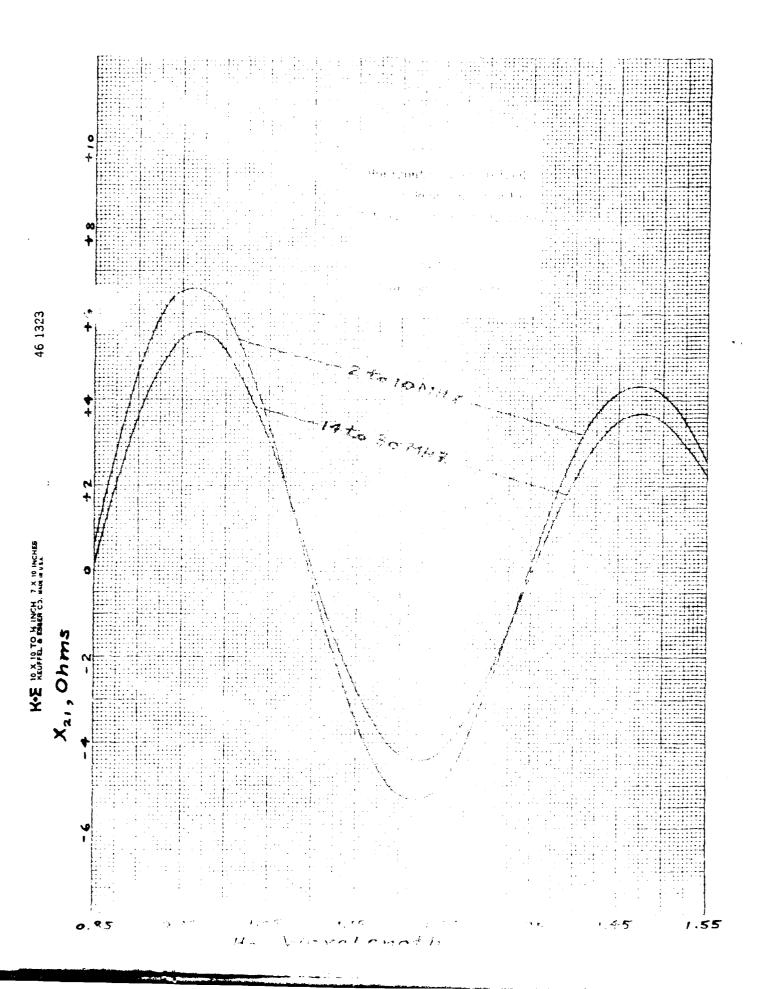


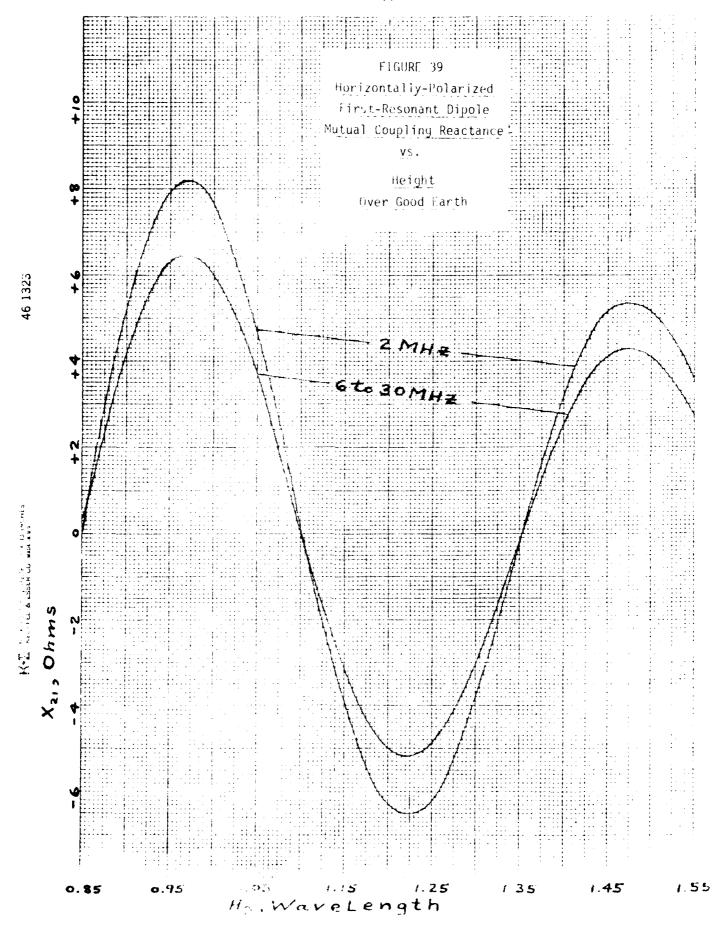


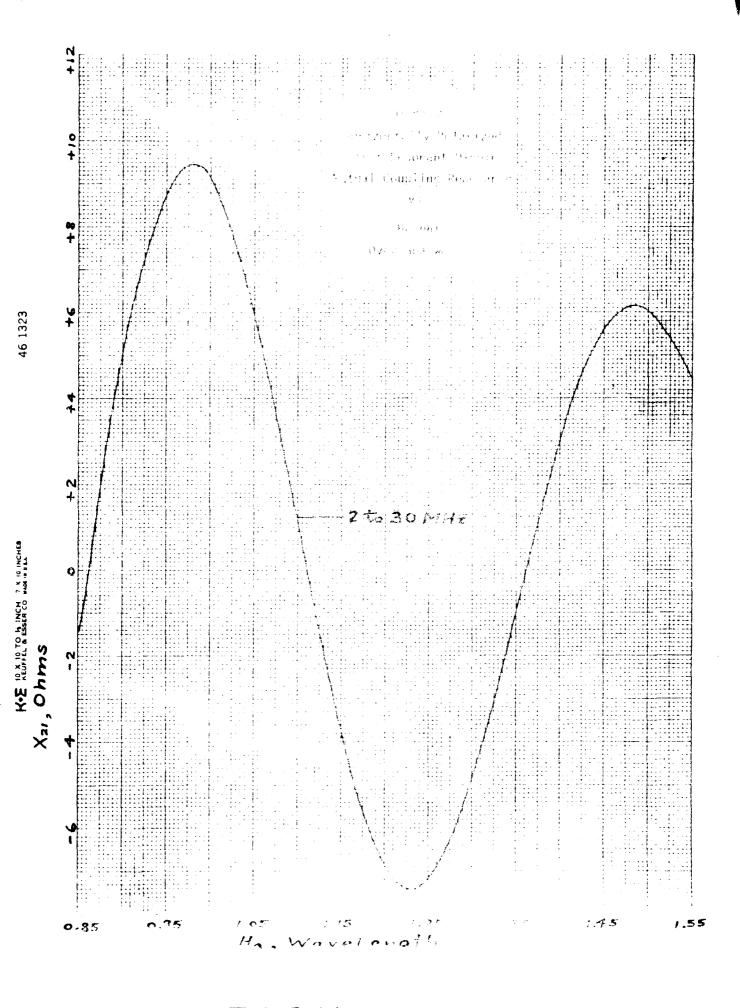


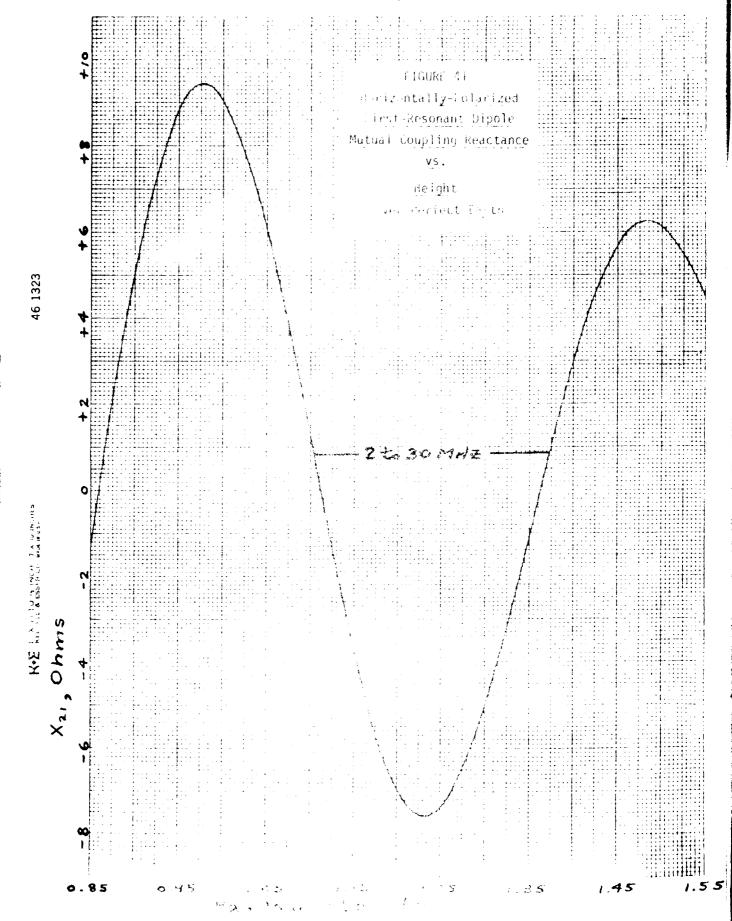












There is a low that mutual reletance is highly expanitive when this automa is near a server earth and, from equation 4, the antenna impedance becomes highly the loss, at some of the low heights, the mutual appears to be quite to be to beth trequency and earth electrical properties. As an example, as a strait of a "I we broad dipole is parallely in the end, early a labellity of the end of the loss parallely. What happeness to the count impedance were to be in erected at the same being layer wood earth? To long liveness, and 27 in the first way.

Moding to ency the act of the the second care.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm HS} = (C_{\rm S} + C_{\rm S}) + (C_{\rm HS} + C_{\rm HS}) + (C_{\rm HS} + C_{\rm HS} + C_{\rm HS}) + (C_{\rm HS} + C_{\rm HS} + C_{\rm HS}) + (C_{\rm HS} + C_{\rm HS} + C_{\rm HS}) + (C_{\rm H$$

To the first case, it was never survive shorten the dipole arms to achieve remarks over now carther seems in a mount are two some the dipole impedance appear more tive. There is no this edited the cip, he conseque input resistance become them 8.87 ohms. In the second case, the dipole imper consistance is reduced further, and the dipole is ugain inductive so that the dipole arms must be shortened further to achieve resonance. Thus, in this example, the first resonant dipole is longer one or earth than it is ever good earth, and thus has been observed in the first 11.7

The results shown on Figure 26 are what one would expect. The autual reactance,  $X_{24}$ , of the free-space of the resonant dipole approaches zero ohms when the height,  $P_1$ , approaches the dipole radius, and the mutual reactance solutions on Figure 26 are a function of lipole first-resonant lengths of 0.49938655 at 2.0 MHz, 0.48598555 at 10.0 MHz, and 0.47368555 at 30.0 MHz discussed proceeding.

The results plotted on Figure 30 show that NEC solutions are not correct when the dipole height is 0.015  $\leq d_{\chi} \leq 0.03$  wavelength over sea water. This is consistent with the results obtained in Section II, and indicates that NEC - with its existing equations - is not valid over sea water at HF when  $H_{\chi}$  is in this region

## IV. VERTICALLY-POLARIZED MUTCAS AND STUDEN.

The mutual resistance, by a result of the plotted on Flavor (42-46 for  $0.25 \pm H_{\chi} \pm 0.95$  wavelengths. The constitution of the origins over this range of  $H_{\chi}$ , one for each original such a set the respective or frequency range is plotted on such yauph.

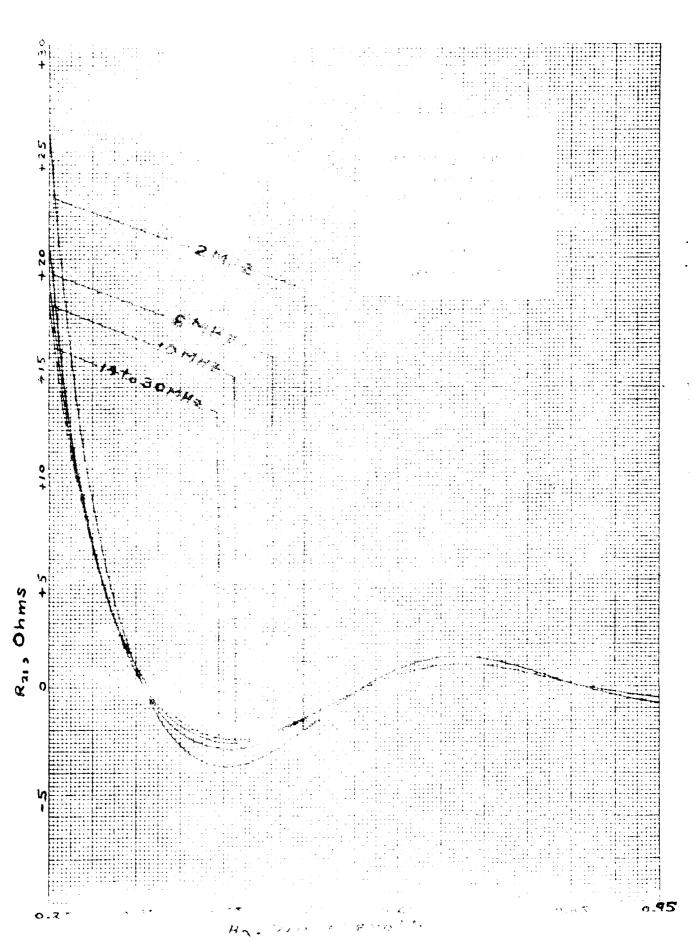
These figures show that marked resistance is nightly positive when this antenna is near ground. We the resulting, this mutual resistance is not highly sensitive to alone as an irrequency or earth electrical properties at HF.

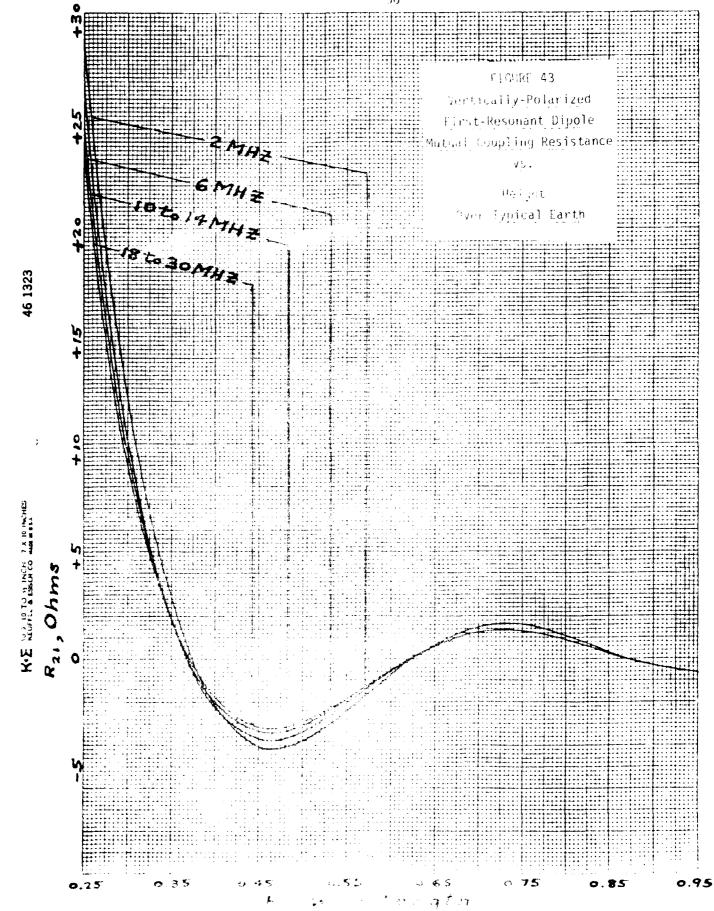
These figures appear to be highly accurate, and vertically-polarized mutual resistance is not very similificant at HF when h<sub>1</sub> = 0.6 wavelength over greanl with the concreded electrical properties.

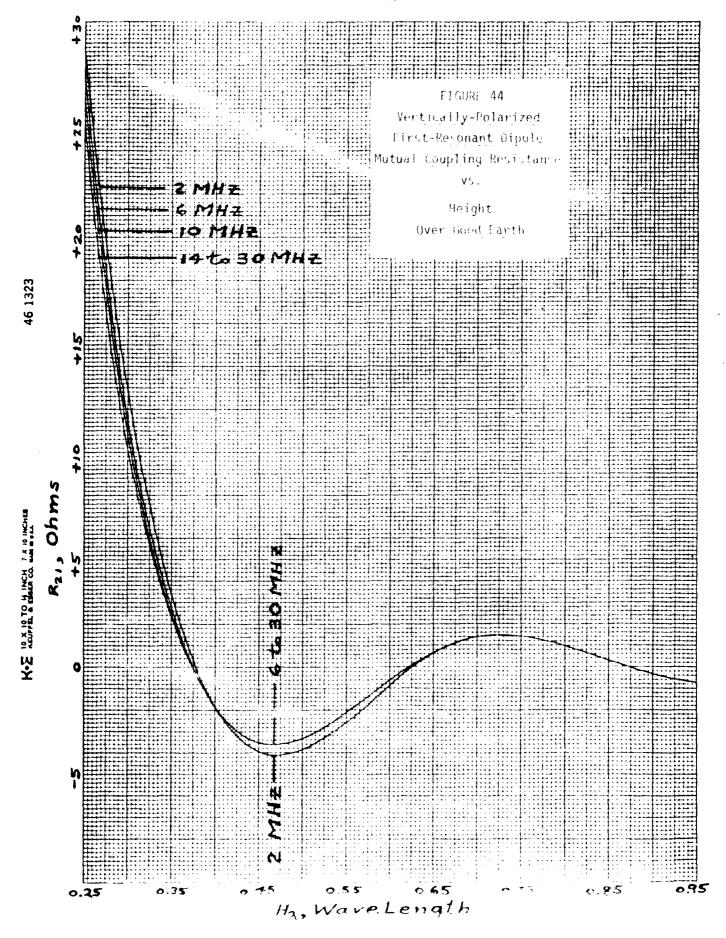
## V. VERTICALLY - POLARIMED MUTUAL REACTAMON.

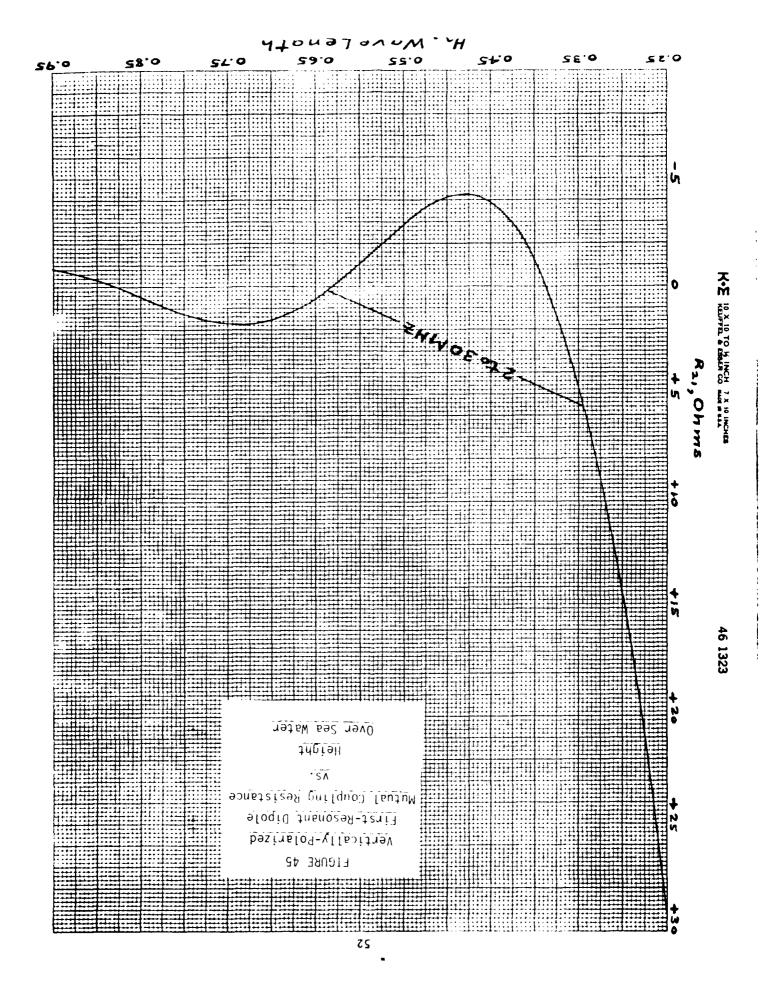
The mutual resonance,  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ , results are plotted on Figures 47-51 for  $0.25 \pm 0.05$  wavelensels. That we, there are 5 graphs over this range of  $\delta_{\alpha}$ , one for each detects of 1, and the frequency cause is plotted on each state.

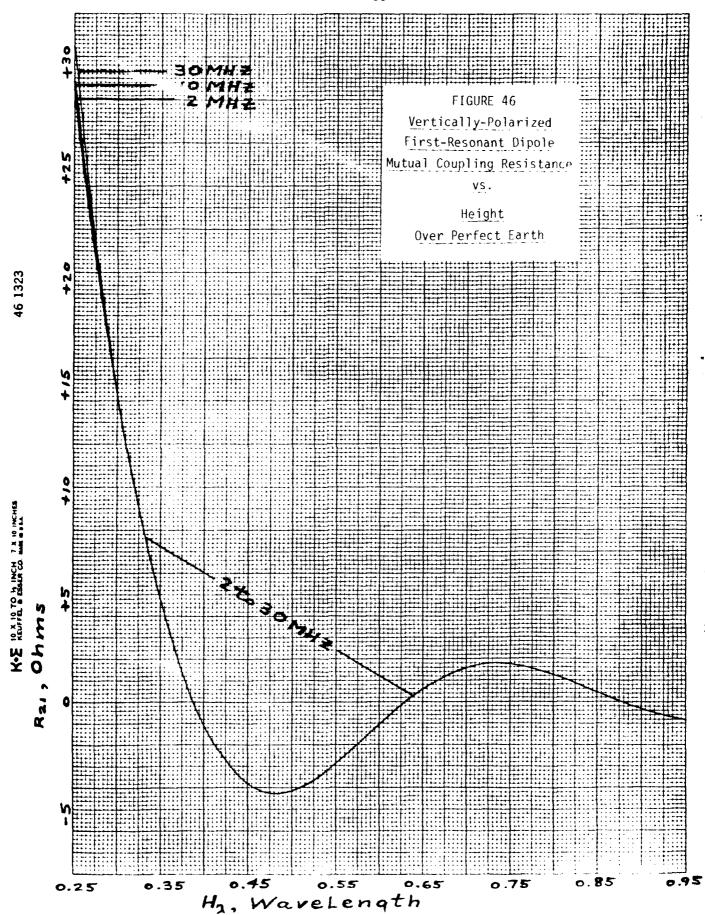
These figures show that putter resistance is always positive when this antenna is near ground. This current reactance is not nightly sensitive to changes in frequency of earth resections properties at MT. The apparent sensitivity to the parent, he really a sensitivity to dipole length at first resonance to a term of 170.



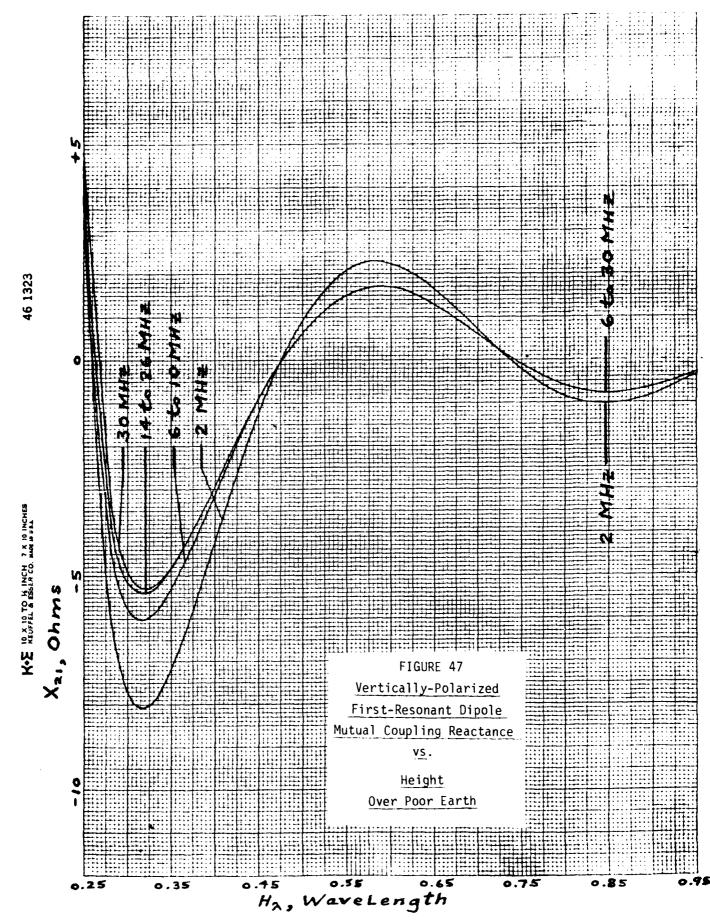


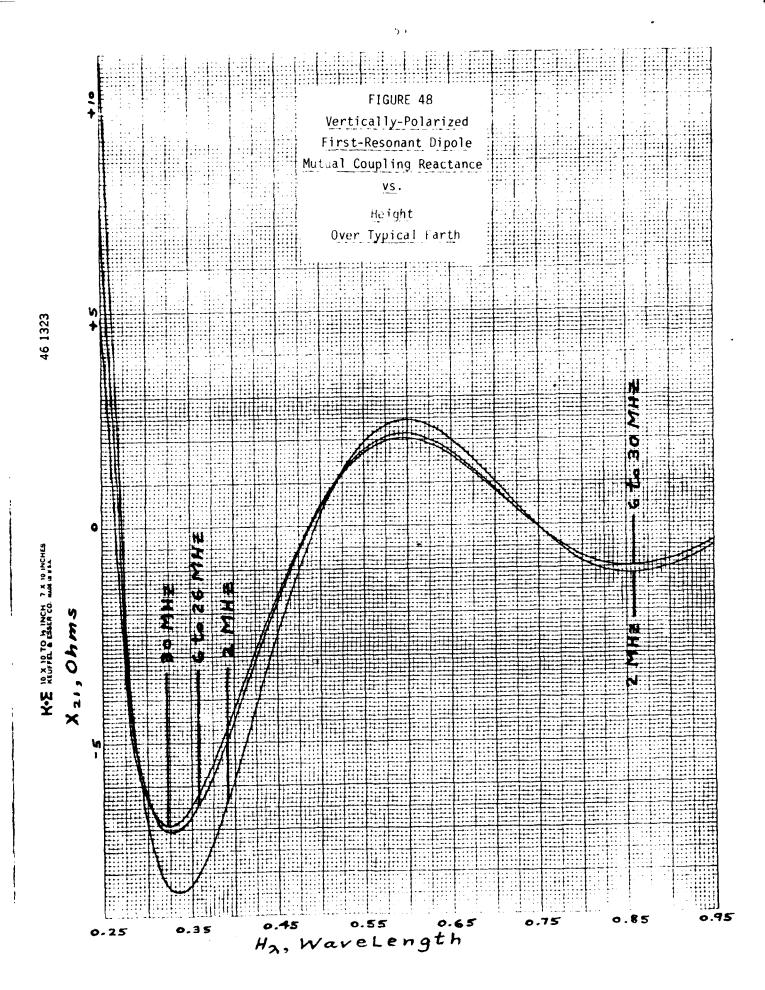


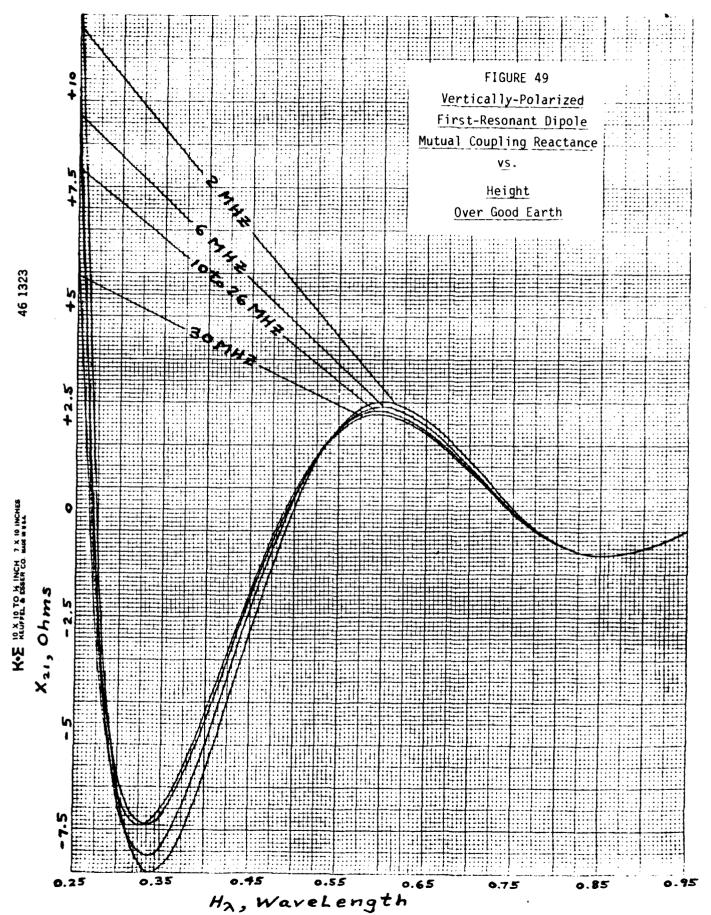


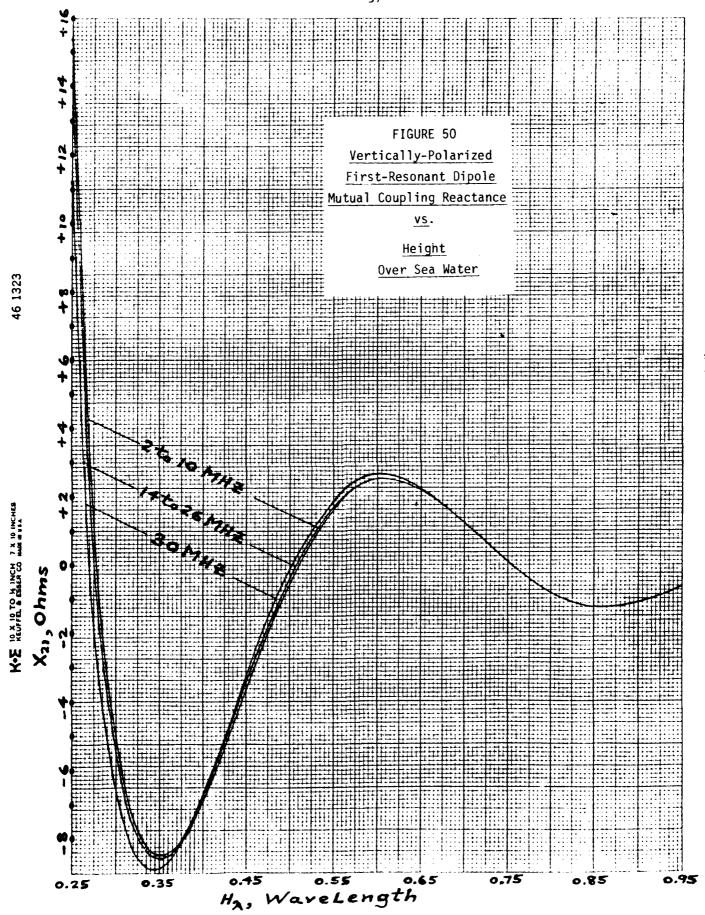


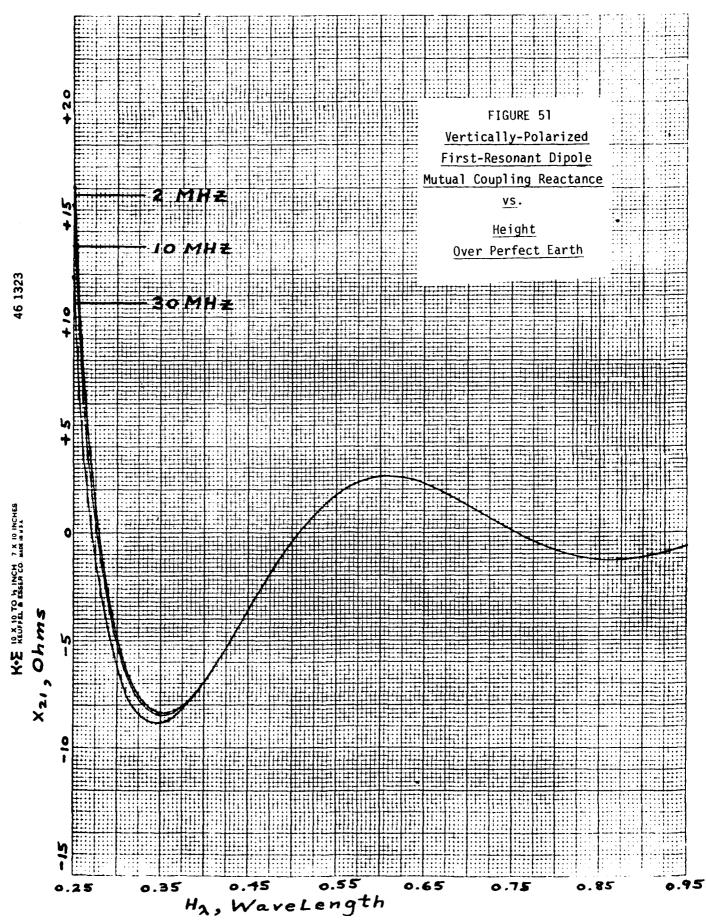












These figures, too, appear to be highly accurate, and vertically-polarized mutual reactance is not very significant at HF when  $\rm H_{\lambda} \ge 0.70$  wavelength.

## VI. SUMMARY.

While this report is not complex, it required so much computer and data reduction time that it discouraged any desire to include solutions for other antenna lengths. An analysis of computer solutions indicated the validity range of simplified equations was so narrow that such an approach is impractical. This is very apparent at heights,  $\mathbf{H}_{\lambda}$ , greater than 0.15 wavelengths where solutions became oscillatory. Hence, all of the reduced data is plotted on the enclosed figures for general use.

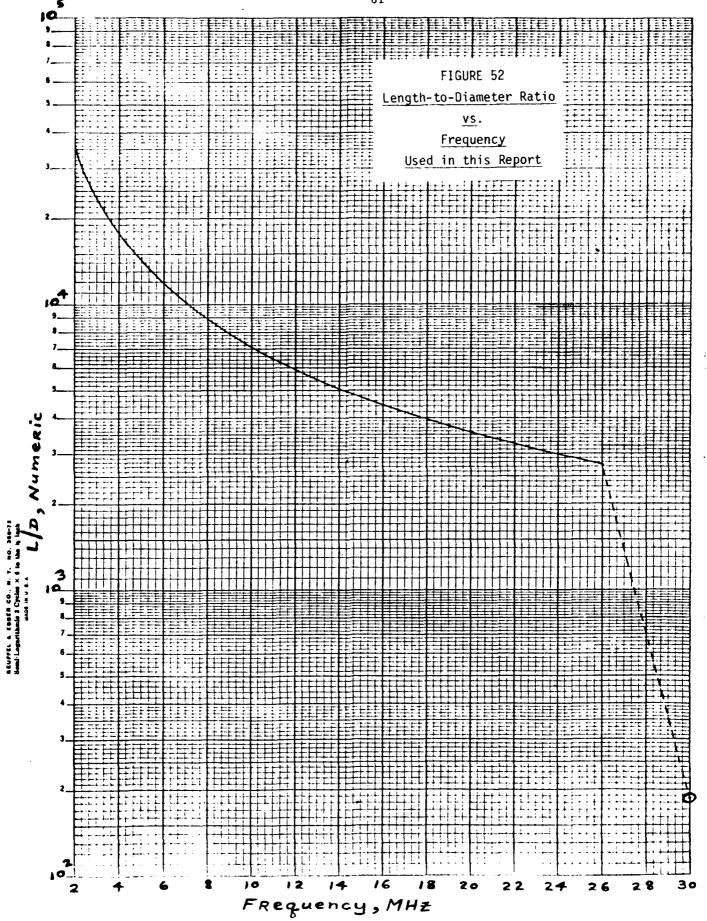
The accuracy of these results depends upon the accuracy of the equations used in program subroutines. That is, with the exception of horizontal polarization and  $0.01 \le \mathrm{H_{\lambda}} \le 0.03$  wavelength over sea water, the curves on the figures are continuous, and the results are highly predictable. The highly accurate results on Figures 42-51 indicate that computational errors will be more related to the Hertzian parallel electric  $\pi_{\mathrm{X}}$  component equation than to the Hertzian perpendicular electric  $\pi_{\mathrm{Z}}$  component equation used in the program Sommerfeld subroutine.

As noted above, solutions plotted on Figures 12-21 and 32-41 are oscillatory when  $\rm H_{\lambda} > 0.15$  wavelength. The individual figures suggest that  $\rm R_{21}$  and  $\rm X_{21}$  solutions are highly sensitive to frequency when the earth's permittivity is highly conductive. When the figures are reviewed collectively, frequency is less important than the earth's permittivity. This leads to the conclusion that the frequency, per se, effect is more one of length, L,effect where length at first resonance is a function of the length-to-diameter, L/D, ratio equation 4 in Reference 4.

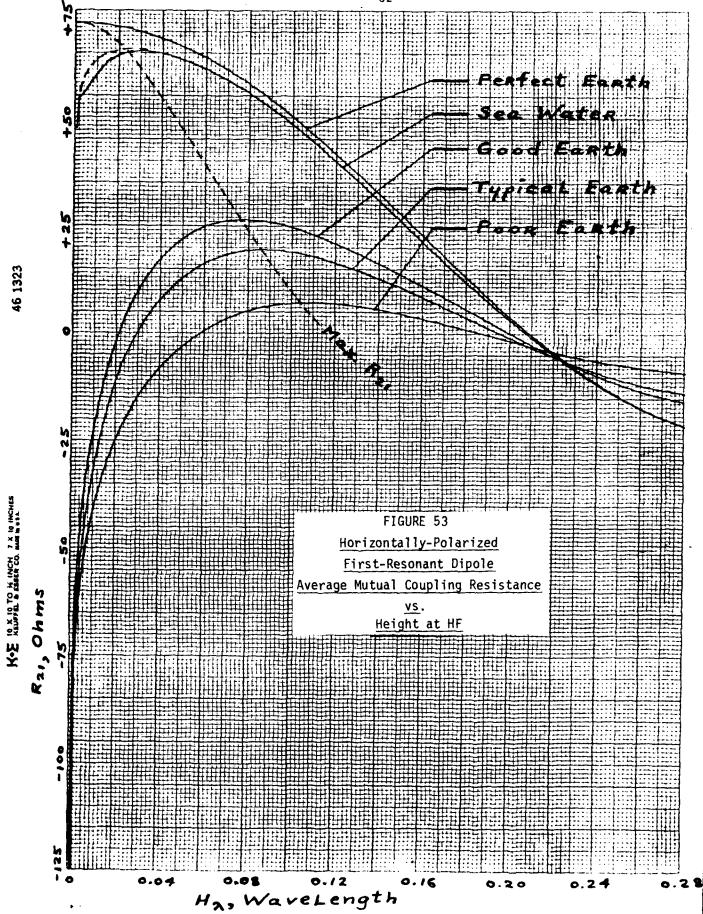
The practical L/D ratios used in this report are plotted on Figure 52, where No. 12 wire (D = 0.08081 inches) was used at 2-26 MHz and 1.0 inch diameter tubing was used at 30 MHz. Thus, the 6 MHz first-resonant dipole is 0.3% shorter than the 2 MHz first-resonant dipole, the 10 MHz first-resonant dipole is 0.5% shorter than the 2 MHz first-resonant dipole, the 14 MHz first-resonant dipole is 0.6% shorter than the 2 MHz first-resonant dipole is 0.7% shorter than the 2 MHz first-resonant dipole, the 18 MHz first-resonant dipole is 0.7% shorter than the 2 MHz first-resonant dipole, the 22 MHz first-resonant dipole, the 26 MHz first-resonant dipole is 0.8% shorter than the 2 MHz first-resonant dipole, and the 30 MHz first-resonant dipole is 3.1% shorter than the 2 MHz first-resonant dipole. This behavior is apparent near the max-min regions on Figures 12-21 and 32-41. It also gives an explanation for the relatively large capacitive solutions at 30 MHz on Figures 2-5 when the first-resonant dipole is very near the ground.

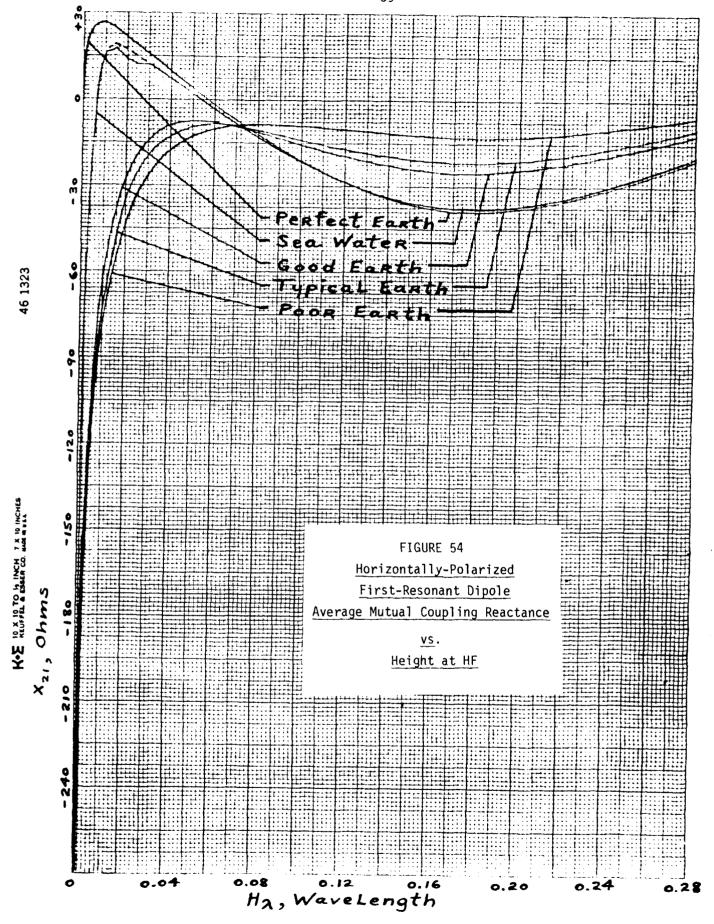
If the 30 MHz first-resonant dipole had been made of No. 12 wire, it would have been 2.1% longer than that of the 2 MHz first-resonant dipole, the NEC solution on Figure 4 would have been -82.9 ohms when  $\rm H_{\lambda}$  = 0.002 wavelength, and the NEC solution on Figure 24 would have been -210.6 ohms when  $\rm H_{\lambda}$  = 0.002 wavelength (approximate the 26 MHz solutions!) On the other hand, if the 30 MHz first resonant dipole L/D ratio had been the same as that of the 2 MHz first resonant dipole, the NEC solution on Figure 4 would have been -69.9 ohms when  $\rm H_{\lambda}$  = 0.002 wavelength, and the NEC solution on Figure 24 would have been -202.8 ohms when  $\rm H_{\lambda}$  = 0.002 wavelength (approximate the 14 MHz solutions!) Therefore, at low antenna heights, solutions are highly dependent upon dipole length.

The behavior of mutual  $R_{21}$  and  $X_{21}$  vs.  $H_{\lambda}$  for the 5 defined near earths can be presented in general terms when frequency [and L/D] dependence is eliminated. The horizontally-polarized results at all 8 frequencies were averaged for each earth, and the average results vs.  $H_{\lambda}$  are plotted on Figures 53 and 54. These results show:









- 1. The inaccuracy of NEC in the 0.01  $\leq$   $\rm\,H_{\lambda} \leq 0.03$  region over sea water.
- 2. Both  $R_{2\,1}$  and  $X_{2\,1}$  have maximum values as a function of earth's electrical properties.
- 3. The height,  $H_{\lambda}$ , at which maximum  $R_{21}$  and  $X_{21}$ , occur depends inversely upon how good the earth is as a conductor.
- 4. With the exception of sea water and perfect earth, the mutual impedance terms,  $R_{21}$  and  $X_{21}$ , are highly negative when the horizontal first-resonant dipole is very near the earth.

While the results presented in this report are not precise, they are as accurate as one can expect without resorting to solutions involving a large number of L/D ratios. The problem is, as it turns out, that solutions are as much a function of first-resonant dipole length as they are to the electrical properties of the earth beneath the dipoles.

I am indebted to a number of PED personnel. Mr. Danny Fink set up the programs. Ms. Lee Ann Sampson and SP5 Virgil Brown were the terminal operators. SSG Robert Pulliam, SP5 Alvin Mack, and Mr. Steve Aubrey collated the stacks of printouts. Without the coordinated effort, of all, this lengthy report would have been impossible.

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- 7. R. Corry, S. Holmes, and G. Lane, "Low Profile Dipole Antenna Design for Near-Vertical Incidence Sky-Wave Communication," EMEO-PED-80-5, p. 7; June 1980.
- 8. R. Corry, "Partial Validation of the Numerical Electromagnetic Code Computer Program Using Data Measured in Thailand," EMEO-PED-80-8, p. 9; September 1980.
- 9. In a 1968 discussion with U.S. Army Signal Corps Officer LTC L.F. Kruse, retired (now deceased), he had noticed a number of years earlier that first-resonant horizontal dipoles at Ft. Huachuca had to be shortened when set up at the same height over better earth in Missouri.